

# Public Libraries

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## The College Library and Adult Education<sup>1</sup>

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The college can aid in adult education by enlarging its present field and by cultivating that field more intensively. For the purpose of this paper, I shall concern myself chiefly with methods of intensive cultivation.

You will not be startled if I say that it is possible for a student to pass through our educational system from A B C to A. B. without acquiring that indefinable thing called culture, or even the internal urge which will ultimately lead to that state of grace. Since our educational system is founded upon the acquisition of knowledge through the use of books, a librarian may be indulged in thinking that the uncultured graduate and the graduate who is not equipped with a self-starting device for further education may, perhaps, be suffering from insufficient acquaintance with good books.

A college professor, whom I know, used to prick his classes into indignant protest by assuring them that 95 per cent of college graduates read nothing after graduation but the daily paper and the *Saturday Evening Post*. He claimed to have statistics to prove it. As students, we were resentful of the indictment. As graduates of 15 years standing, I am afraid that at least 90 per cent of us have no grounds for resentment. Even college faculties, within the memory of man, have been known to consider themselves too busy or too weary to take an

interest in a study club which meets but once a month. The business man and the housewife who "just don't have time to read," the college professor who declines to join a study club lest he may have to prepare an occasional paper on child labor or the disarmament conference, differ in degree but not in kind from the small boy who boasts, "I ain't never read a book." Like him, they have never discovered books and reading as the greatest recreative agents in existence. Accepting the statement on its lowest level, both Roosevelt and Wilson used detective stories as brain polishers!

Is recreation also education? I will answer with a question. Which can you quote most accurately, Mother Goose or Gray's *Elegy*? To the school boy and to most of us who are his elder brothers and sisters, any task which is set us and which must be accomplished in a given way at a given time and place is *work*. It is axiomatic that work is no fun. The same undertakings, worked out on our own initiative and for our own clearly defined purposes, are great sport. That is the difference between work and play, and the lack of the play spirit in our college courses is one of the fundamental reasons why so many college graduates have acquired information without achieving culture. So long as sociology, biology and eugenics continue to be merely "courses" which we "take" (or to which we are hopefully exposed by our instructors), we can have slight hope for a child

<sup>1</sup>Read before the Library section, Oklahoma Educational association, February 13, 1925.

labor amendment. Only when these courses turn themselves into individual experience, into history, poetry and song that are vividly felt, can the forces of knowledge hope to compete with the inertia of ignorance.

The English department has long been regarded as the cultural department of the school. Upon it devolved the privilege of converting eager young chemists into amateurs of architecture by forcing them to read so many chapters of Ruskin a day. The idea was sound; but when the budding chemist remembered that his B. S. was dependent upon reading and analyzing the contents of one of the Seven lamps each day, he was likely to damn St. Paul's rather more deeply than it deserves and his view of the Parthenon was certain to be biased. When one considers credits and required courses, college entrance and teacher training requirements, it is no wonder that the spirit of play has been buried under the load which the English department carries. Under the conditions which have been forced upon it, neither the matter nor the manner of its teaching can be conducive to broad culture.

Christopher Morley recently encountered a carefully edited school text of Milton's minor poems. An immediate explosion occurred. First Mr Morley quotes a sample of the notes on the phrase,

Every shepherd tells his tale,  
Under the hawthorne in the dale.

Tells his tale. Counts the number of his sheep (Warton, on the suggestion of Headley). For *tell* meaning "count" and *tale* meaning "number," see Psalm 48:12, Exodus 5:8. though it must be confessed that when *tell* and *tale* are combined, as in the present passage, "the almost invariable meaning is to narrate something" (Keightley). In view of this fact, *tells his tale* is also interpreted as "relates his story"—*tale* being taken either in the general sense of "any story" or in the particular sense of "a love-tale." But 1) this would be a somewhat abrupt use of the word *tale*. 2) The *every* shows that some piece of business is meant. 3) The context, too, shows that. 4) The early dawn is scarcely the time for love-making.

After the dust of the explosion has settled somewhat, Mr Morley resumes:

Poetry happens when a mind bursts into a sudden blaze; and the annotators gather round,

warming their hands at a discreet distance as they remark that such and such a glowing ember is an echo from Horace or Virgil, or a description of Windsor Castle. As though a poet like Milton, in his godlike fit, gives a damn where the mysterious suggestion arose. To marginal loveliness with such trivial scribble is (let's adapt one of Comus' own lines) to live like Poetry's bastards, not her sons. How shall we justify the ways—not of God to man, but of teachers to literature? And you will hunt in vain in the textbooks for the most human tribute ever paid to Milton. It is this: The only time Wordsworth ever got drunk was when he visited Milton's old rooms at Cambridge.

As to the matter, most of our reading outside the class room is concerned with the authors, the ideas and the affairs of our own day. We go to the past only for its analogy to and interpretation of the present. Our college courses deal with Chaucer, Spenser, Shakespeare, Milton, Pope, Addison, Steele, Byron, Shelley, Keats—you know the average college catalog—with perhaps a course on "the novel" or "the essay." Only the larger colleges carry courses in American literature, continental literature, evolution of literary forms and the like. It is possible to major in English and secure a teacher's certificate in many colleges without acquiring any intimate, first-hand acquaintance with any period of American literature, without encountering Ibsen as more than a chance acquaintance, or knowing Hauptmann, Zola, Sudermann and Anatole France as more than vague names. What standards has such an "English major" for judging Hamsun's *Growth of the soil* or even the American *Spoon River* anthology?

Granting that under present conditions the English department is too heavily handicapped to imbue its students with any great degree of culture, what can the college library do about it?

The library is in a position to bridge the gap between the formal instruction given in college courses and the great ocean of literature from which we must all draw such culture as our mental equipment fits us to enjoy and use. The librarian is the only amateur on the college faculty. I speak, of course, of his relations to knowledge. We all know that he

must be a trained expert in the technique of library craft, but in his relations to knowledge he is the disciple of no science, the apostle of no art, but the lover of all, the eternal amateur, the Peter Pan of literature who refuses to grow up and acquire prejudices. As an amateur, he has no axe to grind and he may mention mental whetstones without having his motives impugned. Since he is not a specialist, he may better appreciate the student viewpoint. Best of all, he may call the play spirit to his aid and send it to do his bidding in bringing students and good books together. Perhaps the verdant freshman, in search of distraction, may accept "Kim" only because she is told that Maude Adams is now producing the picture in India with a real boy playing the part, but the fun she gets out of the book will beget a confidence in the librarian's taste which will pave the way for recommending Strachey's Queen Victoria when she is studying English history. If Strachey seems too big a mouthful at the start, her appetite may be piqued by the administration of Parker's Disraeli. If a man like Dizzy could manage clever people so admirably, it ought to be entertaining to see how he handled the dull but important old queen. Such books are the magic wand which makes history come alive. How many history teachers would venture to use them?

As our colleges are now organized, the tendency is toward sharp differentiation among departments. Rhetoric and public speaking are taught in a different department from literature; the home economics department offers a course in heredity from the standpoint of child welfare; the biology department treats of heredity from the purely scientific standpoint, and the sociology department dips into the subject as a sidelight on social organization and social problems. Only the library is free to point the way to the general book, written in popular style, which points out the implications of the new knowledge of heredity in its relations to eugenics, agriculture, history, social and racial betterment. Yet this is the book which will best convey that vital bit of cultural knowledge to the students who

are not working in the departments directly concerned with the study of heredity. The library can spread the fame of such a book as Slosson's Creative chemistry much more widely than the chemistry department.

These are merely illustrations which show that the library, with its amateur attitude and centralizing tendency, can accomplish informally what the departments, with their more rigid organization, cannot accomplish for the student body as a whole, however well they may perform the service for those under their immediate direction. To restate the idea, the library can arouse and feed new interests; the departments can only develop an interest already aroused. To the extent that this is true, the library has the greater responsibility toward that adult education which college students must work out for themselves after they leave college.

To measure up to its opportunity and its responsibility, the college library must have a well-rounded book collection and a librarian who knows those books and loves them like a mother. Mothers always like to show off their children, you know.

It may be difficult to provide the well-rounded book collection. Most college book purchases are made upon the recommendation of the various departments. This builds a library well adapted to the needs of the courses offered in the curriculum but fails to make allowance for the wealth of literature which does not fall within the scope of any one course. College libraries tend to be deplorably weak in books of biography, travel and contemporary literature. The only way to overcome this, if you do not have a millionaire alumnus who is willing to provide a permanent endowment, is to wage good-natured but determined war upon the powers-that-are until they see your point and provide the library with an independent and inviolable fund from which to strengthen the weak spots in its collections.

Now as to that librarian who shall know and love her books as a mother her children—there are none too many of these amateurs of books in the library

ranks and, I fear, even fewer among the library captains. So much of the time of the librarian in small and medium-sized libraries must be devoted to administrative work that the lover of books is often forced to put on the habit of the man of affairs. There are a few, however, who have an incurable bent toward books and a flair for bringing books and people together. Perhaps they were born queer, perhaps they were born rich, but in any case they have taken the joy and let the salary go. These humble servants and lovers of books should be routed out from their quiet corners, given a salary which will dazzle them for the rest of their lives, and set in the forefront of the battle to establish a liaison service between college students and books. It makes no difference whether they be called librarians or readers' assistants, but their time should be free for unhurried conference with any who care to consult them. They should be responsible for bright and arresting news of books to be published in the school paper, for attractive and timely book displays to catch the attention of the student whose wits are wandering. It may be that their quiet corner, with its table and office chairs, will ultimately develop into such a delightful institution as the Smith college browsing room. There one finds the great books of all time, beautifully printed and beautifully bound, housed in a room of soft carpets and soft lights, great easy chairs and a fireplace that calls kin spirits to communion. It may be that the corner will not grow but that more chairs must be moved into it to accommodate those fellow spirits who have learned that books are a good starting point from which to launch out into discussions of the universe. Perhaps in this corner some bewildered freshman may find a lifelong friend among the great of the earth, some timid rhymester learn the secret which shall give wings to his words till they soar into the realm of true poesy. Then shall that dingy corner be more worthy of honor even than the corner in the abbey where poets lie, for it will mark the beginning rather than the end of high hopes and endeavors.

I think I hear someone say, "All that sounds well but it doesn't get down to brass tacks." For the type of mind that prefers to deal with problems already solved and in need only of a perfected technique rather than with problems whose solution lies in the future, a few brass tacks are stuck in here.

The college library may and should contribute to the adult education of its students by familiarizing them with the standard reference works, indexes and especially bibliographies. This is accomplished in some places by courses in how to use the library, in others by courses in bibliography for research students to aid them in preparing and presenting their material.

Without going far outside its present field, the college library may contribute to the adult education of the community at large by making its books available to those outside the college group. In Oregon, for instance, the books of any state supported library are available for use by any citizen of the state. Most requests are handled by the State library, but requests for expensive technical and research material, for which there is little general demand, are referred to the library of the State university or Agricultural college. This avoids unnecessary duplication and saves the taxpayer's money.

In cases where the advice of specialists is needed, as in preparing a list of books on the Einstein theory for an astronomer or a list of supplementary reading for a one-room, six-grade country school, the college library should act as the liaison officer who brings the expert knowledge of the college faculty to the service of the inquirer.

These brass tacks are encouraging signs along the way, but the greatest service of the college library to the present and future education of its students lies in awakening them to the joys of good reading and introducing them as individuals to the books which of right belong to them. In this field, the college library has failed, as yet, to grasp its opportunity. Shall we not, then, be builders for the future?



## Some Tendencies of Present Day Literature<sup>1</sup>

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Solomon Sniglewitz, in his *Life of Adam*, makes Adam ask, "What is this reading which I must learn? What is it like?" Raphael answers him: "It is something more than gardening; at times you will find it a heavy task, but at its best, it will be like listening through your eyes. You will hear the flowers laugh, the trees talk, and the stars sing."

That was what we expected from the literature of by-gone days. We loved its metaphor and similes, its high-sounding phrases and its classical allusions. We loved its idealism, its romanticism, its idea of retributive justice. It was the law of life, so we had been taught.

What shall we say of the literature of the present?

There is always a parallelism to be seen between an age and the literature produced during that age. Greek philosophy and Greek tragedy are closely connected with certain periods in Greek history. The literature of the Elizabethan age was romantic and dramatic because adventure and discovery are romantic and dramatic. The literature of the Puritan age was religious and argumentative because England was then steeped in religious and political turmoil. The eighteenth century satire was an outgrowth of the artificial elegance of that time. The age of war is accompanied by a literature pregnant with war themes.

It is easy to see other ages in perspective and to characterize both the age and the literature produced during that age. It is not so easy to characterize one's own age. One is too close to it.

To judge it intelligently, one must view it as one does a picture, from a distance. Notwithstanding that fact, it is interesting to note the various terms applied by the literary critics to the literature of our day. Henry Seidel Canby calls it "violently eclectic;" Stuart Sherman calls it "an age of experiment;" Helen McFee calls it "the literature of disillusion;"

Langdon Mitchell says "America is afflicted with a malady." Other writers have called it "the literature of revolt," "raucous novels that betray the teething of our youngest generation."

We of the lay mind know, too, that something is wrong, and while we may not agree in our diagnosis, we are seeking not only for the cause of the malady but the remedy.

There are those who attribute every thing connected with our present disturbed social order to the World war. They claim that after every great war there has been a moral decline. We all know that the war loosened men's hold upon many of the old conventions, that a younger generation was too early introduced into the tragedy of life, and that we have not yet recovered. We know, too, that some of the writers of our most questionable literature reached their maturity before the war, and that many of our most salacious works had been published prior to 1914.

Other critics declare that mechanical inventions determine the trend of civilization. They maintain that the World war was made inevitable by the discovery of the power of steam and its application. The world was made smaller thereby; the interests of nations were thus brought into conflict. The telephone, the radio, the automobile, the cinema, the airship, all have affected our social life of today much more than we realize.

When Eli Whitney invented the cotton-gin, slavery was waning. That invention made negro labor profitable in the South. Had this Connecticut yankee invented some other device that would have made slavery profitable in the North, conditions might have been reversed. The people of both sections were of the same racial stock. Boston, not New Orleans, might have become the great slave market. Uncle Tom might have been sold "up North" instead of "down South." Some Southern Whittier might have sung the anti-slavery songs. Some Gulf

<sup>1</sup>Read before meeting of Colorado library association, Boulder, 1924.

state Lincoln might have written the Emancipation proclamation. Among all of our recent inventions none has so influenced our habits of life as have the automobile and the cinema. Today we travel at the rate of 50 miles an hour instead of five, and a corresponding nervous reaction results. The "movie" has accelerated human experiences at the same rate. This makes for more intensive living and a still greater nervous reaction. The movie has become the literature of the masses. In this, we have completed a cycle of time. Picture writing was the earliest method of recording thought. Twenty-five thousand or more years ago the Cromagnards, whom H. G. Wells calls the "first true men," expressed their ideas in pictures drawn on the walls of their dark caves.

Primitive man everywhere has followed this practice. Today a modern audience goes into a darkened cave—a movie playhouse—and reads picture writing. It requires little thought to see a picture. Man is a gregarious animal, and so, in the movie house, a whole community assembles to live vicariously the romance that drab reality has denied it, five hundred—a thousand pages of it in an hour. Then, too, books can be read in less time at the movie than in the quiet of one's home. But can they? When *If winter comes first* appeared many of the critics were loud in its praise. We were told that Mark Sabre would live as long as the characters of Dickens have lived. His fine idealism was pointed to as something unusual, rare; and it was. Then the book was filmed. Again we are told that the picture represented almost perfectly the idea of the author, that it was equally perfect in its technique. I was anxious to see the picture but came away feeling that subjective emotion and soul struggle cannot be adequately portrayed by glycerine tears and heaving shoulders. A friend who had not read the book, said, "What a sissy Mark Sabre was!"

Now this picture writing is not altogether bad. It is of great educational value. The cinema has brought the whole world to our very door. It shows us fine manners, beautiful garments, man-

sions of the rich, palaces of the Old World, castles of all ages are thrown upon the screen. We cross oceans, sail the seas of Arctic cold and of tropical climes, ride in the steerage and in the cabins. We live not only in our own age but in all ages. Perhaps the movie has been criticized too much, but nevertheless it has some bad effects that must not be ignored.

It has made us restless, nervous, discontented with home and its quiet; it has introduced young people to a literature beyond their years; it has given them a forced, hot-house kind of experience. They are shown the corrupting influences of a life which both in environment and in experience is foreign to them. Hamlin Garland says that the country lad, the farm boy and the villager are introduced to the corrupting influences of the life of the underworld. These influences of the cinema we need to recognize when we are thinking in terms of the literature of today.

The novel of today has departed from its original function. Many novels have become effective organs of propaganda; others wage a war on the dullness of life, its monotony, its middle-aged pessimism. Still others emphasize sex quite out of proportion to its relation to life. One writer has said, "The fiction of the present runs the gamut from the *Satyricon* of Petronius to the latest tale by Elinor Glyn." It batters at our old standards of morality and assails them as puritanical. It attacks our established institutions, shows us, perhaps, some of their frailties but would abolish the institutions entirely. Marriage, the home, the family, the church; nothing is too sacred to be free from its attack.

Hamlin Garland says, "The woman libertine is in process of glorification in both novel and drama." While I am willing to grant," he says, "that each generation must have its chance to express itself in its own way, I find myself revolted by an over insistence on sex themes and by a kind of ego mania in these writers." "It is curious," he continues, "how little maternal love enters into present day fiction." Mr Garland

advocates censorship which he defines as "the organized collective protest against debasing forms of art."

In his *Conversations with Cornelia* in the *Atlantic*, January, 1924, Stuart Sherman traces the treatment of that most interesting subject, marriage and chastity, by the novelists from the eighteenth century down to the present. The early novelists recognize marriage as an indissoluble tie; they recognize also that many times unhappiness resulted. When chastity had been violated, there was no salvation for the woman but death, the cloister, or exile. Mr Sherman next considers contemporary writers of fiction in the persons of H. G. Wells, Mr Galsworthy, May Sinclair and Mr Beresford, and says that they are all interested in morality. He believes that if they were questioned they would say that they were reflecting in their novels the revision which the idea of virtue is undergoing in our day. They do repudiate the idea that mere legality can set the seal of virtue on any such alliance. Because chastity has been traditionally identified with legality, they hold the word in some contempt.

Among the novelists that have arrived within the last 10 years, it is more difficult, says Mr Sherman, to discover any community in constructive ethical intention. Think of D. H. Lawrence's *Lost girl*, Arnold Bennett's *Pretty lady*, W. L. George's *Ursula Trent*, and Willa Cather's *Lost lady*. In all of these, the heroine wanders where she will. No single explanation seems to account for the destructive tendency discernible in the works of these writers.

Mr Sherman says, "There is evidence in current literature of the growth of an aesthetic philosophy which rejects the moral valuations of life. Its doctrine is briefly this: 'You can't be sure that any act will yield you happiness. You can't be sure that any act will be virtuous. You can be sure that every act will yield you experience. Let us go in for experience and value our acts according to the quantity and intensity of the experience which they yield.'"

Not only is the institution of marriage being assailed by our present day novelists but the church as well. Sinclair Lewis, in *Main Street* and in *Babbitt*, holds the clergymen up to ridicule; Willa Cather, in *One of ours*, portrays the minister as a very narrow individual. In Hugh Walpole's *Cathedral*, practically the entire group of clergymen connected with the cathedral are actuated by selfish motives. The very building itself is made to exert a malign influence over those that minister within its walls. In May Sinclair's *A Cure for souls*, the canon is a striking example of selfishness raised to the *nth* power.

The church is conservative; some clergymen are out of touch with the problems of their day, yet, I wonder if the reason for this attack does not lie in the fact that the church, with all its deficiencies, stands for the old morality, the decent conceptions of life, the idea of duty as opposed to desire; the idea of self-sacrifice, instead of self-indulgence? You will notice that there is no sinning in our present day novels. The word seems to have disappeared from our vocabulary; "unconventional" has taken its place.

The present generation is in rebellion against the coming of old age, also; reflection of this is seen in Gertrude Atherton's *Black oxen*. Notwithstanding the fact that it was a novel without literary merit, it was in the front rank of the "best sellers" month after month.

Much of the same revolt found in the novel is evident in the poetry of today. The tendency to free verse is more of a revolt against the technique of the poetry of the past than against its idealism. Amy Lowell, with her puritan inheritance, leads in this school of poets. Her poetry is idealistic, artistic, imaginative; much of it is of great beauty. Robert Frost, Vachel Lindsay and a score of others belong to this school of writers.

The poet, Edwin Markham, accuses Walt Whitman of having had a bad influence upon younger poets. He says that while Whitman's poetry contains many fine isolated passages, Whitman's philosophy is bad; that it is equivalent to

saying "Do as you jolly well please." He goes on to say that Whitman makes no distinction between good and evil, and for that reason he calls Whitman dangerous to young people in the formative period, and especially disastrous for young writers.

Edna St. Vincent Millay is a revolutionist in subject matter if not in the form of her poetry. She, according to one writer, does not speak in terms of "forlorn maidens or of wives bereft, but of the wanton woman whom conscience does not trouble." In place of Longfellow's "Life is real; life is earnest," consider her

My candle burns at both ends  
It may not last the night  
But, O my friends and O my foes  
It gives a lovely light.

Edgar Lee Masters is an example of a poet revolutionist in both form and content.

Edwin Arlington Robinson holds to the old idealism in both subject matter and form, and ranks above them all. Today he is recognized as the dean of American poets.

From the days of Ibsen down to the present, we have had the "problem play"—even before Ibsen's day, "Hold the mirror up to nature," Hamlet's advice to the players, has been followed by the playwrights, and we have seen some ugly things in the drama.

Many of our more recent dramatists have taken the same themes used by the novelists and worked them out in the same unwholesome manner. The demand of the individual for the right of self expression regardless of its effect upon other individuals or upon society as a whole is a frequent theme. Miss Crothers' Mary III throws aside all the conventions of society and the traditions of her family to plunge into a wild gratification of selfish desire. Another common theme is the pursuit of happiness, and many of our dramatists have failed to observe that in real life one seldom finds happiness in the pursuit of it. "Gloomy plays," too, seem to be gaining in number and favor. Icebound, a recent Pulitzer Prize play, and The

New Englanders are types of these. We have been surfeited with plays that are sensual and that appeal simply to the lowest instincts. So bad has the situation become that to avoid censorship, the Authors' league of America, the Actors' Equity association, and the American Dramatists' and Producing Managers' association have accepted a plan recommended by the social service commission of the Episcopal diocese of New York. This plan recommends that plays whose morality is questioned shall be passed upon by a jury of 12 representative citizens. Such an arrangement, if given the coöperation of the city authorities, should be productive of excellent results.

The underlying thought of much of our present day literature is "live fully, not finely," and our writers seem to think that life is a matter of outward experience, not inward. They have made their characters young men and women looking for experience whatever the nature or the cost. Now experiment merely for the sake of experiment leads nowhere. Henry Seidel Canby says, "While the restraint, the discipline, the godliness of one generation may not be those of another, no family, no civilization can endure on the principle 'try everything once.'" He states also that there is such a thing as being too successful; that a counter revolution is inevitable.

So far my picture has been a rather gloomy one, but there are indications that we have become satiated with road-house escapades, contract marriages, psychosis, complexes, and endless experiments. Margaret Wilson's The Able McLaughlins, which won both the Harper and Pulitzer prizes, does not ignore the sex element, but instead of making it a matter of lower instinct, raises it to the height of sacrifice and fine spirituality.

Booth Tarkington is the only writer that has received the Pulitzer prize twice, and his books are clean and idealistic.

Johan Bojer, while not an American, has been made popular in America and his books are being read as rapidly as translations of them can be secured. No bit of fiction published in the United

States has received such consistently favorable comment as has his *Last of the Vikings*. The last chapter of his *The Great Hunger* is one of the most beautiful things in literature.

When so wholesome a book as Edna Ferber's *So Big* stands at the head of the list of best sellers, we need not despair.

Some of the dramatists, with Mr Drinkwater in the lead, are turning to biography for material, and such plays as Drinkwater's *Lincoln* and Robert E. Lee, Mr Shaw's *St. Joan*, Walter Prichard Eaton's *Queen Victoria*, and A. Edward Newton's *Samuel Johnson*, are indicative of a new and interesting type of drama.

As a teacher I could not close this article without speaking of the effect of present day literature upon young people.

If literature does anything, it preserves the ideals of the past, and this one generation must pass on to the next. If the literature we inherited seemed narrow, it contained eminence of mind and a fine-

ness of spirit. Young people are everywhere being criticized today, but the marvel is that they are as good as they are.

Let us reflect upon the inheritance they received in a World war and its aftermath, religious discussions between fundamentalist and modernist, courts filled with criminal and divorce cases, social unrest, political scandals, race hatred everywhere.

These are the stage properties we provided. We may not like their play, but *we* set the stage. We must remember, too, they have as yet produced but the first act of their play; their entire drama may be a better one than ours has been.

We need a literature today pregnant with fine living, one in which emphasis is laid upon character strength and character development; man must be made to mean more, his adventure less. Young people have a right to a literature in which "they will hear the flowers laugh, the trees talk, and the stars sing."

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### Library Meetings

Willis Holmes Kerr, librarian, Kellogg library, Kansas  
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The multiplicity of library meetings is like the rather large supply of daily newspapers—all right, if good enough; all right, if they cover their territory.

A good library meeting begins several months before and is not "through" for several months after.

It seems to me that the technique is something like this:

The executive or program committee should choose the "theme" of the conference many months (at least six) in advance. A few outstanding features may be planned at the same time. All of the perennial problems of library work may be, and should be, woven into any good "theme." That is, the theme may well be the subject of the time, but as a general conference theme it should be interpreted "in the large." This allows many points of contact for details, so that a large net "content" or impression is carried away.

Following this early meeting of the executive committee, a rough outline of the program should be sent out to the membership and potential attendance. The more questions this outline can succeed in raising, the better. In fact, many of the topics may well be put in the form of questions, certainly in the form of sentences calculated to challenge attention and start thinking. People should be encouraged to send comments, questions, additional topics. A summary of these comments and questions may well be sent back to the conference mailing list. The oftener and the more variously the program can be stated, the better the result. Some of this preliminary conference-by-mail may well be by personal letter rather than by general circular. If people are thus reminded of actual issues of discussion, they bring data, illustrations and prepared conclusions. All of this adds no



end of zest to the conference itself. It results in investigation, thinking, correspondence and application of ideas for months after the conference.

The Wisconsin people did much of this sort of work for their very successful 1923 summer conference. This plan was applied somewhat in the preparation for the regional A. L. A. conference at St. Joseph in 1922. We applied it somewhat in planning the Kansas state meeting at Emporia in October, 1924.

Some time I should like to see a state or regional conference planned almost entirely for demonstrations and informal stand-up and walk-around examination of processes, exhibits, etc. For such a conference I would have one good topic presented each day by a formal address or paper, followed by floor discussion. Then the demonstrations, more or less simultaneous, repeated at intervals throughout the day. Demonstrations and informal talk in the cataloging department of a good live library; the necessary tools of classification and cataloging lying around; two simple small working catalogs, one on L. C. cards, another on typed cards, with the books represented. Likewise, demonstrations and exhibits and talk in your repair and binding department (people stayed over a whole day at our recent Emporia conference to get more of this work; we asked some to bring books with them for repair and rebinding). Your children's department, your reference department, your loan desk, your book selection and order department—there is no limit to the possibilities. For such a program of demonstrations, the staff of demonstrators should put on beforehand a conference of discussion of the ends to be sought, of the points to be driven home, of the materials needed for distribution, etc. The attitude ought to be to gain participation in this demonstration by your membership, not just sideline gazing.

For many years now Kansas has held very stimulating state or regional meetings in the fall; and for six years, in addition, a series of district meetings in the spring. The district meeting was held only in the Wichita-Hutchinson part of

the state for the first two years; then for three years, three or four districts each held a meeting. Julius Lucht, of Wichita, was and is K. L. A. chairman of the district meetings, and he and I (one or both of us) attended all meetings, the dates being arranged something on the Chautauqua circuit plan. Usually the same list of topics for informal discussion was used throughout, being issued in advance, after consultation with the communities entertaining the conferences. Formal papers were very seldom, almost never, used. The attendance was very largely of librarians and board members from the smaller towns. But how they did ask questions and respond! Mr Lucht and I only seldom had to resort to dialog to keep things going.

Having built up the district meetings for five years in this way, we thought a permanent organization of the state into four districts, each with a district vice-president, all under the guidance of a K. L. A. district meeting committee, would be the thing. Result: only one district meeting in 1924. Second result: Mr Lucht, Mr Manchester and I will probably go on circuit again next spring. As always, we shall have the indispensable help of dozens of librarians and board members, the backbone of Kansas library progress.

I do not believe we have, or can have, too many such meetings. Nobody in Kansas objects; they clamor for more; they enjoy inter-state and regional conferences, but they say "There's nothing like our own good old K. L. A. meetings." I believe it is because we *work* at the job.

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The artistic talent of Rafael Sabatini is a matter of inheritance. His mother, sent to Italy at the age of 15 to become a pianist, became instead a prima donna. At the opera house in Manila, in the Philippines, she met a young successful tenor, Vincenzo Sabatini. After a successful career of 27 years, when his eldest son was seven years old, Sabatini senior turned from the stage and settled in Portugal. The early schooling of Rafael Sabatini was in the Lycée of Oporto, Portugal, where he learned to speak six languages, from which he was later to select English as his literary medium.

## In the Letter Box

**New Hampshire Ahead of New York**  
Editor, PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

The article in the February number of PUBLIC LIBRARIES about Mr Dewey was read with great interest. Few, indeed, can show such a wonderful record of accomplishment, and it is with no desire to detract in the least from this record, but solely on the ground of historical accuracy, that I wish to call attention to what seems to be a mis-statement.

On page 76 it says, "In 1890, the state library association was started . . . it was the first of the great band of state associations which are found in so many of our states." Inasmuch as the New Hampshire library association was incorporated, August 16, 1889, this would seem to be an error. As to whether or not New Hampshire was the first of the states to form such an association, I am not sure, but should be very glad to be informed on this point.

F. MABEL WINCHELL  
Librarian

City library  
Manchester, N. H.

## In the Spring

Editor of PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

Ringling Brothers' and Barnum and Bailey's Combined Circus will print in its programs for the coming season the enclosed list of books on the circus and related topics (*See p. 192*) with the suggestion that some of them can be found in any public library. The Cleveland public library is duplicating the titles in anticipation of the demand, and other libraries may be interested to do the same.

LINDA A. EASTMAN  
Librarian

## Scholarships

Attention is called to the possibility of a scholarship for the year 1925-1926 for graduate study in the field of bibliography, economics, social and political science available to a properly prepared library school student or librarian. Applications for appointment should be made by

April 1, 1925. Requests for information should be addressed to the secretary, The Robert Brookings Graduate School, 1724 I (Eye) street, Washington, D. C.

## Western Poetry

My dear Editor:

I imagine that we Spokane librarians are not the only ones who are still gasping over *The Nation's* prize poem!

So if you can find room to print this poem in PUBLIC LIBRARIES, it may interest others as well.

Public library ALMIRA R. WILCOX  
Spokane, Wash.

## Hot Afternoons Have Been in Spokane

Hot afternoons have been in Spokane,  
Hot afternoons have been at the  
Spokane public library,  
When the only breeze stirring was that  
Wafted by certain well-known coat-tails  
As they flapped by the loan desk!

Hot afternoons have been in the reference department,

When I have sat working on club programs,  
And through the open windows  
Of the reference department flitted  
All sorts of bugs—little bugs, big bugs, flies—  
(Flies are no respecters of persons.)

Now at the public library we have  
Mining engineers, clubwomen, hermits, women  
haters—

But before that Indians camped on the ground  
At First and Cedar—  
That was before the days of movies, jazz and  
free verse.

Now, sometimes, we gaze out of the windows  
Of the public library

(Hot afternoons have been in Spokane),  
Gaze down to the Spokane river and  
Are confident that if we had out here in the  
west

Such a boob as wrote *The Nation* prize poem,  
We would take him down to the Spokane river  
And duck him in it!

Status of Librarians under the  
Immigration Act

Under the new immigration act, librarians are no longer classed as non-quota immigrants. This group now includes only students, college and seminary professors, and ministers. The old law which included members of professions, artists,

etc., has been repealed, so that physicians, engineers, lawyers, etc., are no longer non-quota immigrants, and of course this applies also to librarians. Students coming to attend recognized library schools, however, have the status of non-quota immigrants.

The commissioner general of immigration, in an interview with a representative of the A. L. A. Federal and State Relations committee, stated that since most librarians wishing to enter this country would probably come from the Scandinavian countries, Germany, France and England, they would have little difficulty in getting in under the quota from these countries if application is made a little in advance of their date of sailing.

Librarians coming to work in American libraries for a year or two of experience or training may be admitted temporarily as tourists or non-immigrants. M.

### Cross-Word Puzzles Again

Editor, PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

I have been interested in the controversy with regard to the use of cross-word puzzles in libraries. We have, I think, succeeded in solving the problem by using the books freely for circulation but pasting in them a special label with the following wording:

Do not write on the blank spaces of the puzzle itself. To do so would spoil it for the next user. Place thin paper over the puzzle and trace a copy which you can use for finding the solution.

So far, this injunction seems to have been respected. The books are not marked up to any extent.

ARTHUR E. BOSTWICK,  
Librarian

Public library  
St. Louis, Mo.

### Time Limit on Questionnaire

Replies to the Survey questionnaire still continue to come in, but concern is beginning to be felt in view of the fact that the report must be completed and ready for the printer in about twelve months' time. It will be extremely difficult to incorporate in the report replies

which are received later than the first of July. Unless a very large proportion of the replies which are still to come is received well in advance of that date, the task will be extremely difficult.

The director will appreciate it if all who are not able to complete their replies before April 1 will let him know at about what date the replies may be expected, in order that plans may be intelligently made for the work during the latter part of the investigation. C. S. T.

### Send for Missing Plates

The Midway studios, Chicago, announce that the 12 photogravures which were to have been included in Lorado Taft's History of American sculpture but which were omitted from the recent edition, have been prepared by the publishers and will be sent free of charge to those who purchased the History of American sculpture.

The omission of these plates was a cause of regret to Mr Taft as it was not his purpose to have the books issued without them. It is, therefore, a great pleasure to him to be able to announce that the missing plates can now be supplied, free of charge, by application to the publishers, the Macmillan Company, New York.

### The Library and the Radio

The librarian is perturbed. A booster of circulation must be found. First the movies, now the radio have attacked the library and the anemic condition of the great god circulation demands attention. This pessimistic attack may have been brought on by an old gentleman, completely deaf and therefore unable to enjoy radio, who has returned a volume of Schopenhauer. Be that as it may, the librarian feels that something must be done to remedy the situation.

The librarian reflects that if the radio-phan wants to know anything about radio, its theory and practice, he puts down his head phones, turns his steps to the library and asks the librarian. The librarian will reach to his shelves and get down exactly the book or magazine which gives the information needed. Is the li-

brarian a physicist that he knows just where to look for information as to the "effects of resonance power in the radio oscillatory circuit?" No, but he must be able to search his mind and say to himself, "Now where did I see something like that? Oh, yes, of course—*Scientific Papers*—Bureau of standards, several months ago." He turns to his customer with a pleasant "Just a minute and I'll get it for you."

Go to a library and ask for information on anything under the sun and you'll get it, if it's a good library, and, still more important, if the librarian is a good one. A good librarian must be a mental Jack of all trades but, unlike the proverbial Jack, he is master of his own. In like manner with his co-worker, the teacher, in that thankless task of educating the public, he is seldom appreciated. He must be alive and alert in spite of his environment of sometimes dusty and musty volumes. He must be able to instantly put his hands on the best references in Egyptology on Tut-anekh-Amon and also to have the mental elasticity to seek the origin of the word "jack," whether a machine for raising weights is meant or the "jack" accumulated by those outside the library profession. He must *know* books.

But to change our wave-length, what about radio and the library? Now radio has hurt the library. The librarian has from the beginning stood ready to help the radiophan but the radiophan, except for coming to the library for books on radio, will do little to help the circulation of other books. There are persons who can read and listen to broadcasting at the same time. There are even college students who can study calculus and listen to the Parade of the wooden soldiers, but by the theory of probabilities there will be more wooden soldiers than mathematics in the resulting mental pattern. The radiophan, as a rule, says to the librarian, "I have no time to read. I am trying to get KDKA on a one tube set. You try to do it, Mr Librarian."

The remedy, we think, lies in advertising the library by radio. The idea is this: Let the library be supplied with the

broadcasting program a week ahead of time. One of the staff can then prepare a short talk on the interpretation of the music to be heard—an account of the composer or some notes of timely interest in regard to whatever is to be broadcasted that day. This service would benefit the broadcasting station, the general public and the library. It would stimulate an interest on the part of listeners in, books and suggested course of reading being supplied by the library. Is it not worth a trial?

CARL BOYER

Philadelphia

\* \* \* \* \*

If a library has found a new way of creating interest in books and reading, why not tell others about it? The way is open.—*Editor of P. L.*

A recent radio review of the great Tissot and his pictures, prepared by the Public library, Worcester, Mass., was given under the direction of the reference librarian, Grace W. Wood.

A very interesting radio talk was given recently by George S. Godard, Hartford, state librarian of Connecticut, who told of the many historical relics housed in the Connecticut state library, as well as setting out the various interests of the state library and the help and inspiration which its contents offer to all classes of students as well as to those who have pride in the knowledge of the history of the development of New England.

#### For Free Distribution

A note from R. B. Eleazer, educational director of the Commission on interracial cooperation, states that a file of documents relating to the origin, methods and results of the interracial movement in the South will be sent without charge to any library sending a request for the file to the office of the Commission, 409 Palmer building, Atlanta, Ga. There is today a good deal of interest in this movement. It is being studied abroad, particularly in its bearing on Great Britain's interracial problems, and it would be well for libraries to have authentic data on the subject.

Monthly—Except August  
and September

## Public Libraries

216 W. Monroe Street  
Chicago, Illinois

M. E. Ahern, Editor

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Subscription - - - - -	\$3 a year	Current single number - - - -	35 cents
Five copies to one library - - - -	\$12 a year	Foreign subscriptions - - - -	\$3.50 a year

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By the rules of the banks of Chicago, an exchange charge of 10 cents is made on all out-of-town checks for \$10 and under.

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Copies failing to reach subscribers, through loss in the mails, will be duplicated without charge if request to do so is received within 30 days after publication. Later than that duplicate copies can be supplied only at market prices.

Contributions for current numbers of PUBLIC LIBRARIES should be in hand by the fifteenth of the month previous to the appearance of the magazine. Advertisements for which proof is not required can be accepted as late as the twenty-second of the previous month.

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### The Spirit of the Wisconsin Pioneer

THE frequent announcements in the daily press recently of the high attainment in some endeavor outside strictly library work is a matter for congratulation not only to those who thus honor the service by the honor that comes to them but in the fact that their attainment was outside the library field. It augurs a width of interest that means much for the quality of service that the library receives unless, indeed, the latter is only a side issue, which, of course, is another thing.

Many years ago, F. A. Hutchins of Wisconsin was constant, in season and out, in advising librarians to have side interests in addition to their library work as a means of keeping fresh and preserving an interesting personality. He made a decided impression on the young people who heard him and many a one today owes what he may have accomplished for his personality to the heed he gave to the wise advice of Mr Hutchins. Others owe to him success that has come in writing, in organizing and in other lines of endeavor, as reports of every day show. He was always ready to help the capable.

Mr Hutchins had a way of saying much in a few words—and in rather a flat tone when he was disappointed in what was up for discussion, but in a voice rising in power and flexibility when the occasion demanded earnestness—and he made persons think all round the subject by his homely way of putting it. A “librarian” who was in library ranks for no special reason received scant encouragement to continue the march, but on the other hand received much good advice to follow any visible leaning toward work of another kind.

Many of his contemporaries will recall with glee his distaste, which grew with the years, for the club woman who was often too busy, as he thought, “supporting the library by pie suppers at 10 cents apiece” instead of using that same energy to create a sustaining appreciation of the library as an educational and inspirational institution needful in every community as a mean of sustaining and extending intelligence and culture. His advice was always sound and rarely fell on unheeding ears.



Mr Hutchins might be called an individualist as opposed to an organizationist. He set the individual to doing the work he saw needing to be done, and when in his judgment results warranted it, the organization was formed to coördinate, extend and direct its future development. In this way supervising direction was at hand so long as it was necessary.

In remembering the fine spirit and effective work of this pioneer in his day and place, one is tempted to prolong a discussion of his efforts, but such a thing would be endless. One may only point to the high places, feeling sure that the follower of his trail will find the help and vision that are present there all the way.

The proper study of mankind is man.

### Education for Library Service

**A**DULT Education is one of several activities which A. L. A. headquarters are stressing at this time. An effort that is not less important is that looking toward better education for librarians. This does not yield itself so readily to the light of publicity for library activity but there can be no doubt of its being of prime if not highest importance in the conduct of the people's university. Indeed, it is conceivable that if this latter idea had from the beginning been held in higher esteem by library authorities, there would be scarcely so great a dearth of educational effort in library service as is apparent today.

In recruiting for library service, one should investigate carefully and wisely the state of the material that is offered, as to desire for better mental equipment than is possessed at the time by the candidate. No matter what the personality, valuable as it is, the first interest should be the amount of education already possessed and equally the desire to possess more knowledge in the days that are before one.

In an effort to push off the boat from the shallow waters that too often in former days were the starting point of embarkation for library work, the person who announced that he loved to read was laughed out of court. Perhaps the mis-

take there lay on the wrong side of the ledger. Surely one who does not love to read can hardly lead another to do so or even arouse a continuing interest in the contents of print which, after all, is what reading really is. To read without understanding is perhaps more deplorable in a library worker than in many another who might be named. How can one who does not read meet the needs of library users or induce non-users to come within the circle of the library's usefulness?

It is from this point of interest that the plan of giving time for study, for travel or observation outside the library and for a period sufficiently extended to count, is justified, is, indeed, to be commended. A well must itself be refreshed if it is to continue to give out sweet water, and, to carry the illustration further, the refreshment must not be confined to the process or mode of bringing the water out of the well, but must be largely concerned with the elements which compose the water.

So study for greater usefulness must be on the contents of books as they relate to important questions of the time in the fields of utility or in cultural lines of thought. A library worker who does not read nor even know the literature of the hour will not go far in usefulness in a society that does not itself read. The direct opposite of such a situation is the goal before the craft.

In his address, Why educate for librarianship? at the Saratoga Springs meeting of the A. L. A., Adam Strohm of Detroit said:

Expenditures for library service are mounting from year to year and our library shelves are receiving weighty volumes, a good many of which are rarely disturbed. What is the reason for this altogether too large percentage of unused and unproductive material in our book collections? In truth, not because there are not individuals in need of such material nor because channels of usefulness for its release are not available, but rather because the keepers of this ammunition are not familiar with the assets for service at hand or fused with the spirit of earnestness that produced the recorded findings.

In this day we build with edged tools and the librarian should be able to cut clean and lay bare the grain of the material which others will fashion into the finished product. Competition is keen, the trained man, the expert, is at the elbow of the executive; every institution, every enterprise, prompted merely by good will and sentiment, wastes its resources and travels in the company of the mediocre and the non-productive.

What profit is it that these things are said? Does the individual measuring stick of those concerned show favorable results for the intervening year? Yes, somewhat.

The wisest know that the only true wisdom lies in not thinking that one knows what one does not know.—Cicero.

### For President of A. L. A., 1926

IT IS eminently fitting that the librarian of the Boston public library, Charles F. D. Belden, should be chosen president of the A. L. A. for its semi-centennial year since he is worthy in name and station, in ability and accomplishment, to be the successor of Justin Winsor, who was director of the Boston public library and first president of the A. L. A., chosen at its meeting in Philadelphia in 1876.

Mr Belden is a graduate of Harvard university and was employed in the Harvard law library during the time he studied in the Harvard law school. It was during this period that his life-long interest in library work began. Promotion followed Mr Belden from the first and his *magnum opus* was the cataloging of the Harvard law library, which was, at that time, the greatest law library in existence. There had been small catalogs of the library, the first issued in 1826, one in 1834 and another in 1846, when the books numbered 12,000. From 1846-1902, nothing was done toward cataloging the library though it had grown to

115,000 volumes in the 60 years. The catalog work was finally finished, both a card catalog and one printed in book form under Mr Belden's direction.

For seven years Mr Belden held the position of assistant law librarian and then, for a year, he was transferred to the Social law library, Boston, and then was made state librarian of Massachusetts, in which position he served for eight years. This position carried with it supervision of the libraries of the state and the years of greatest progress in development of Massachusetts libraries in fiber, if not in extent, may rightly be placed in the period covered by Mr Belden's administration.

In 1917, Mr Belden was appointed librarian of the Boston public library, a worthy successor of a line of notable librarians. The intervening time until the present marks a development in efficiency and extent of service of the Boston public library which, notable as it always has been, has not been excelled by any other period in its marvelous growth and service.

There is room to congratulate the A. L. A. on having as its prospective head, particularly for this period of celebration of its half century of growth, a man with a vision and grasp of the service of books, a man with experience, training and equipment such as Mr Belden has, and whose personality and cordial, kindly bearing will give to the association the *esprit de corps* and fidelity which only the

elements which go to make a man can engender. His election is sure to follow his nomination.

The appraisal of Mr Belden in the *Boston Evening Transcript* closes most fittingly with Dr Bostwick's definition of a perfect librarian: A scholar without pedantry; a man of the world without indifference; a friend of the people without sentimentality.

### Death's Toll

There has been removed from the scene of active life one who, though not an actual librarian, contributed in interest, in support and in work to the development of the use of books in a fashion and with a faithfulness that has not been exceeded by most of those engaged in library service.

Frank Moore Colby, teacher, lecturer and encyclopedist, died in New York City, March 3, after a long illness.

Prof Colby was professor of history at Amherst college, lecturer at Columbia university, professor of economics at New York university, and was for 34 years connected with Dodd, Mead & Company as contributor to and editor of the New International encyclopedia and the New International yearbooks. In addition to his work in strictly educational lines, Prof Colby had been editor of the *Bookman*, literary reviewer for *Harper's Magazine*, a contributor to the *New Republic*, *North American Review* and other periodicals. He was the author of a number of volumes of essays, among which is the well known *Imaginary obligations*. He was also American editor of Nelson's encyclopedia and adviser to many who were doing similar work. His last important work was a supplement to the New International encyclopedia, completed in 1924.

Prof Colby's going means a severe loss in the world of education to which he contributed so effectively while he lived, and a multitude of friends and colleagues will miss his counsel and devotion.

### Service of the American Library in Paris to French Universities

In its service to European and particularly French universities, the aims of the library are 1) to assist in building up in each university library a carefully chosen collection of books on America; 2) to supplement these collections by loans from its own collections; 3) to answer special bibliographical inquiries in regard to American books, and particularly those by contemporary authors or relating to subjects of contemporary interest.

Of the appropriation made in 1924 by the Laura Spelman Rockefeller memorial to the American Library Association committee on books for Europe, the sum of \$4750 was allotted for books for French university libraries, and the librarian of the American library in Paris was asked by the committee to advise them in the expenditure of this allotment.

The first step in the administration of this fund was to secure lists of the periodicals and books desired by the different French universities. These lists were then carefully analyzed with a view to supplying, first, current periodicals representing American progress in different departments of learning; second, the volumes needed to complete files of periodicals received by libraries before the war but since discontinued because of lack of funds and the high rate of exchange; and third, if there were still funds available for the purpose, the books most essential to an understanding of the history of American thought and institutions.

Orders have been placed for the current issues of periodicals requested and also for files of periodicals desired to complete sets for the period, 1914 to date, but since many universities have not asked for the periodicals most needed by them and no university has asked for all the periodicals which it needs, it is certain that the funds already available will be insufficient to supply either the periodicals or the works of reference which should be made available for research purposes.

It is to be noted also that the infrequent demand for certain periodicals and books makes it unnecessary to give them to every university; it is sufficient to have in a central lending library one copy of each of these available for lending.

The importance of making the American library in Paris a central lending library was recognized by its trustees in a resolution passed by them, November 6, 1923, authorizing the extension of its service to professors and students in French universities.

Arrangements were made with the *Ministère de l'Instruction Publique* whereby requests for books may be sent by professors to the *Service des Prêts d'Imprimés*, and books sent to them and returned by them through this office without cost either to the borrower or to us.

In this way, scholars in 21 different universities and lycées have requested from us within the last few months about 300 books, of which 23 per cent have been supplied.

In addition to building up collections of American books in the universities and lending books for occasional or individual use, the library has been able to answer bibliographical inquiries, and by means of its literary review, *Ex Libris*, give university scholars information in regard to current English and American publications not otherwise accessible to them. Their opinions as to its value were summarized in an editorial note in *Ex Libris* for October. The entire subject of the library's service to the universities was the subject of an editorial note in its issue for December.

### As It Was in the Beginning

Frank Avery Hutchins

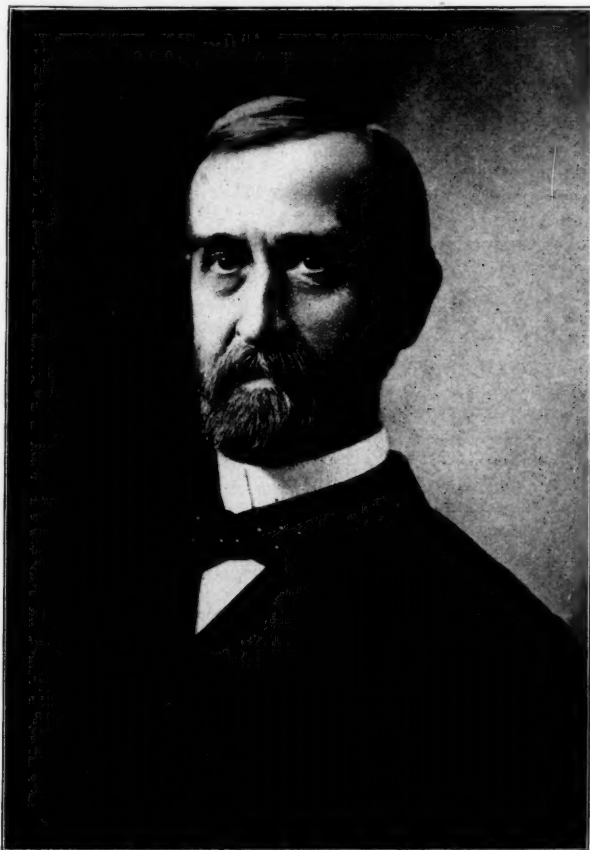
The name of Mr Hutchins recalls the heroic age of librarianship. It is a pleasure to dwell upon this period of fine beginnings and to attempt to recall and transcribe the record of his work that it may be made known to the library profession of today in need of the inspiration which will come through the knowledge of the sacrifices made for its foundation, and through an understanding of the hopeful eagerness with which the founders worked toward the accomplishment of ideals. Young librarians probably get in library schools this touch with the spirit and lives of the founders, but they cannot hear too often of the fine leadership, during the formative period, of Melvil Dewey, Frank Hutchins, Katharine L. Sharp, and Mary Plummer. The contribution of each of these inspired leaders is scarcely recognizable in the institutions of today but they did much of the basic work upon which librarianship now rests.

Wisconsin became the laboratory for the successful working out of library experiments for two or three very good reasons. First, because it was a state receptive of new ideas and quickly responsive to appeals for progress which would give to its eager citizens of foreign birth those benefits of which they had dreamed until the desire to share in them had driven them on to a new country. Another reason for the success of library work in Wisconsin must have been the fine university which had early established an extension department and had certainly helped to mould the sentiment of all Wisconsin. The particular reason for Wisconsin leadership in library work, in university extension work, in legislative reference work, and in many other social, political and economic improvements in community life was the fact that Mr Hutchins was a citizen of Wisconsin and that his ideal of citizenship was so high and was fortified by a fine intelligence and a willingness to serve to the end.

The editor of PUBLIC LIBRARIES has recently given voice to a belief that libra-

ries should not be classified as missionary institutions, and this is undoubtedly true if the public is to take the right attitude toward the libraries, and is to be willing to support them as it supports other de-

money to afford to continue in its service. His students have told of their love for him and of his tremendous power of inspiring and interesting them. When he was over eighty years of age he fre-



Frank A. Hutchins

partments of government; but back of the institution there should be the zeal and spirit which are supposed to accompany missionary work. By ancestry, Mr Hutchins acquired the missionary spirit. His father was a wonderful teacher of the classics who championed the cause of a small college of which he was president. He was obliged to leave it at intervals in order to earn enough

quently said that he had gone along so well because he had always done each task "just for the fun of the thing." The mother and sister faced the hardships of educational pioneering and ministered unto the father and son so that they might minister unto others.

The son was a keenly intellectual man with a frail body and a great mind, an unusual appreciation of the best in liter-



ature, and a strong belief in the inspirational effect of great literature. These characteristics were shown in his frequent repetition of the quotation freely rendered, "The fair and the good are the worst enemies of the best." His fastidious use of English made him a fine speaker and an effective writer. His contempt for slovenly writing made him impatient with much of the popular literature of the day, and he was especially intolerant of it when found in books for children and young people. The present writer well remembers a lesson which followed the use of "etc." in a book note, which was returned with the suggestion that it revealed lack of knowledge or lack of ability to express what was known, that the sentence should either be completed or omitted, being as it stood a confession of incompetence.

It was characteristic of Mr Hutchins to break down the barriers which stood in the way of accomplishing a good purpose for the benefit of the individual or the community. He was never ruthless but he disregarded non-essentials. Knowledge of bookless homes or towns stirred him to prompt and definite action, not to mere oratory. He was always direct in speech and those who have heard him will long remember how his fine voice would grow big with excitement when he suddenly blazed into indignation over an injustice, a lack of opportunity through poverty, or when he was thrilled with the possibility of service through libraries.

The Wisconsin library system was the outgrowth of a local library situation top-heavy with privileges for the few. It had never been a model for the organization of other systems because of this fact. When Mr Hutchins became interested in its library development he found the great library of the Historical society, the university library, the state law library and 35 free libraries throughout the state. The country people had no access to books through these few free libraries and there was no opportunity for people in little towns to get books. Mr Hutchins was fully informed in regard to the conditions in small towns

and frequently recalled to his co-workers the statement that "God made the country, man made the city, and the Devil made the small towns." He determined to make library centers in the small towns because he believed that a knowledge of good books, with a fine librarian, would do more than any other agency toward beating the Devil. In including the fine librarian as part of this plan, it should not be inferred that the trained librarian was at all necessary at this time. Mr Hutchins and Senator Stout, his co-worker in library and educational service for Wisconsin, both believed that the close association of young people with a fine woman in school or library would give them more than any technical qualifications unaccompanied by the lofty character and desire for service which the ideal teacher or librarian should have.

The biographical note which follows this article tells of Mr Hutchins' observation of library service in the little public library in Beaver Dam, Wisconsin, his home town, in which he was the editor of the newspaper. He watched the children in the library and he was afterward always very much stirred when he told how one young boy had been made a great scientist through the stimulus of the work in that small library. He felt that every other boy should be reached by the librarian who knew him well enough to put the right book into his hands. He saw that open shelves were provided and that the borrowers had access to books. Librarians today may have forgotten that this was a debatable question in 1895. Believing in the power of good books, Mr Hutchins left Beaver Dam and spent two years as library clerk in the office of the state school superintendent.

This meant the selection of books for the school libraries of the state and organizing them for serviceable work. He was determined that other small towns should have the sort of library service he had made possible at Beaver Dam and he was inspired by the possibility of service to the country people through the traveling library system which had been established in New York by Mr Dewey. He worked with Senator Stout toward the

establishment of a free library commission for Wisconsin and was a member of this commission when it was formed in 1895. He gave his services without salary for two years, and when an appropriation was granted in 1897 he was made secretary of the commission. In this office he built the Wisconsin library system from the foundation. He drafted the library laws, secured appropriations, established the traveling library system, planned for the organization of free public libraries in all towns able and willing to support them, organized a library summer school for the training of librarians of small towns, planned for the publication of a book list which was the first aid offered public libraries for the selection of current books, and established in Wisconsin a legislative reference library system for which New York had offered the suggestion and pattern.

The present writer was in charge of the library summer school for ten years after Miss Sharp had established it, and was the editor of the first little book list which was afterward adopted by the League of library commissions and given a wider opportunity for service. From an intimate knowledge of the encouragement given these lines of work, she knows the intense enthusiasm which Mr Hutchins had for the betterment of library conditions. The library summer school brought together those fine volunteer and little-paid librarians from the small towns of Wisconsin who had been inspired by the example and the idealism of Mr Hutchins. Later, there were special courses for librarians of some training and finally one summer, almost 100 people were in attendance when specialists were brought to Madison to share their knowledge with the trained librarians to whom the library schools had not been giving help in all the practical problems of rapidly changing library work. The extension of library service to members of the legislature was a new phase of library activity into which Mr Hutchins entered with great enthusiasm. He secured permission by law to do this work by exhibiting the reference publications of the library of the state of New York

and showing clearly what could be done toward the betterment of legislation if Wisconsin might profit by the experience of other states and avoid the costly experiments in legislation which were the results of ignorance. After a law was enacted to make such service possible, he searched the country for a skilled legislative librarian and finally found a man untrained in library work who responded to his enthusiasm and understood his ideals for the service.

Mr Hutchins developed also an instructional service for libraries, having field workers meet with librarians and boards and organize the libraries for more effective service. He never forgot the main purpose of the library and always rated most highly the personal qualities of the librarian and her ability to make the library serviceable because of human sympathy and wide knowledge of books. He did, however, appreciate the necessity for simplifying the work, by means of knowledge of library economy, so that the processes of preparing and lending books should not absorb too much of the time and strength and interest of the librarian and assistants. He also realized the need for inspirational work and gave free reign to the one of his assistants who had the magic power to stimulate interest in establishing and using libraries. Mr Hutchins and Miss Sterns together stirred the state of Wisconsin and gradually the Commission organization became more elaborate in order to respond to the demands people made upon it.

A careful review of the growth and development cannot be made in this article because none of the publications of the Commission are available here. Suffice it to say that for nine years Mr Hutchins directed the library work of Wisconsin, raising the standards for librarianship and for the books used in libraries. He worked unceasingly to make the library a community center, with lectures and provision for adult education. He believed that social service in small communities ought to center in the libraries and brought this about most effectively in some communities

where he had the coöperation of broad-minded and far-seeing men. He was especially interested in the sponsorship of knowledge and welcomed the new bibliographies which Mr George Iles made possible. He would have been interested also in county library development and in freer use of books in rural communities.

Ill health finally compelled his resignation in 1904. When he had regained his usual strength, he became active in the extension division of the State university where he carried out plans for making library material available to those who need it, through package libraries for debate and public discussion, and opened new horizons for university extension.

The people of Wisconsin expressed their appreciation of his service at a testimonial dinner in 1913. Tributes were sent from co-workers and from librarians throughout the country, and the press of Wisconsin had appreciative surveys of his work and his great contribution to the state. Ill health compelled his retirement from this work, and he died in Madison, January 25, 1914.

Mr Hutchins' library work was original, constructive and eminently practical. He had a great vision and he was able to inspire people who helped him to bring to pass the plans for service of which he dreamed. He believed in the inspiration and help of the ideals and the practical knowledge conveyed by books. He surrounded himself with people who believed in his work, able to create enthusiasm among all the fine corps of library workers in Wisconsin, many of them volunteers, others on small salaries, all eager to bring to perfection his plans for a better citizenship for Wisconsin.

His personal qualities endeared him to his associates. He was tolerant, kindly, humorous and very generous. He was fond of old-fashioned expressions and illustrations which he frequently applied most effectively in distressing situations. When public boards fell out over some trivial matter, he suggested they be allowed to "stew in their own juice," and was never disturbed over such trivialities. The obstinacy of a certain librarian was

admitted with acquiescence in the opinion that the "eternal hills were all of a twitter compared to her." A doubt expressed over the possibility of a rather gay young creature becoming a steady librarian was met by the assurance that when she had her own library it would be like a child to her and no person could do anything which would injure a library toward which she had that feeling. When a library board thought it impossible to get an efficient librarian because of the incumbent "needing the work," he made a generous contribution toward the beginning of a fund for the needy librarian, suggesting that no board would take public funds for its private charities, but that it should certainly provide for the librarian if she needed help. It might not be amiss to add that he enjoyed the humor of the situation when he found that the librarian had spent the money for a diamond sunburst.

He had a horror of the petty "graft" and dishonesty found in some political surroundings. His employees will recall an explosion which occurred when they brought to the office fountain pens which were being given out to state employees by a superintendent of public property generous with the people's money. Personal anecdotes of Mr Hutchins might be multiplied and they would certainly serve to make him seem nearer to the new generation of librarians and would delight those who knew him best.

Library systems change, but the ideal is ever the same. Great expenditure of money can never make librarianship greater than it was in its early day. The opportunity to do good may be much extended, but, after all, it is just the fine person with the fine book and the eager, acquisitive mind which needs the help that comes from the book. With all the fine leadership which established the ideals for the library cause, there has never been anything finer than that which came from Frank Avery Hutchins who gave himself freely, believing that it was a great cause.

State library      CORNELIA MARVIN  
Salem, Ore.      Librarian

**Biographical note about Mr Hutchins'**

Frank A. Hutchins, former secretary of the Wisconsin Free Library commission, was born on March 8, 1851, at Norwalk, Ohio, where his father was teaching a local school. At an early age, the family moved to Wisconsin and settled on a farm near Beloit. Later Mr Hutchins' father was called to the presidency of Wayland university, as it was then known, at Beaver Dam. The family subsequently moved to Baraboo where Mr Hutchins was privately fitted for college. He attended Beloit college for some time, during which he became a charter member of the Beta Theta Phi. The removal of his father to Beaver Dam to again assume the presidency of Wayland university prevented the graduation of Mr Hutchins from the institution. A short period was spent in teaching in the schools at Fond du Lac under the superintendency of his uncle, C. A. Hutchins. He then gave up teaching and traveled in the interest of a book company for some time. An illness of three years ensued, after which Mr Hutchins became editor of the Beaver Dam *Argus*. While in this work, he was offered the position of township library clerk in the State superintendent's office, which position he filled from 1891 to 1895. While occupying this position, he put the school libraries of the state on a firm foundation. Prior to that time, he had been the prime mover in the movement for a free library at Beaver Dam, his home town. This library, through his influence, was one of the first libraries in the country to provide open shelves for readers.

In 1891, he was instrumental in the organization of the Wisconsin library association. In 1893 and for some time thereafter, he was active in inaugurating and establishing the state traveling library system by which over 700 rural communities, otherwise without books, are now served. After assisting in the enactment of the law providing for the Wisconsin Free Library commission, he became a member of the commission, giv-

ing his services for two years without pay, but becoming in 1897, the salaried secretary of the commission, a position which he continued to hold until 1904.

During this time, laws encouraging the widest extension of library service were placed upon the statute books, the traveling libraries became more firmly established, scores of public libraries were organized, many library buildings were constructed, and the legislative reference library had its beginning.

While the Wisconsin library school was not organized during this time, it is to a considerable extent the carrying out of his plan. He was particularly insistent that it should be a school where practical experience and demonstration should supplement theory, a conception which is now consummated in the annual field work done by the library school students.

After a period of ill health which occasioned and followed his resignation from the Library commission, he became active in the conception, organization and execution of the work of the Extension division of the University of Wisconsin. In this work, as in his library work, he always laid the particular emphasis on reaching those persons and communities which have heretofore been without educational opportunities. He it was who inaugurated and managed the package libraries which have carried so much information and inspiration into the furthestmost parts of the state.

Those who know say that without him the splendid work of the state anti-tuberculosis association would have been impossible since it was he who planned and inspired the active Christmas seal selling campaign that has largely financed this association. He was helpful also in the movement for a forestry department, and was largely responsible for the passage of the law creating the first state park commission, of which he was chairman. It was to a large extent due to the plans which he formed and urged upon various public spirited citizens that the state now owns four fine public parks.

It was characteristic of him that at one time when the Wisconsin Free Li-

<sup>1</sup>From the *Wisconsin Library Bulletin*, February, 1913, and January, 1914.



library commission raised his salary without his knowledge, Mr Hutchins asked for a special meeting of the board and insisted that the increase in compensation which had been voted to him be divided among other workers whom he considered more underpaid than himself.

To place opportunity before those who were without it was the controlling motive in the life of Frank Hutchins. A perfect understanding of the needs and desires of others was his most marked characteristic, and it seemed always natural for him to make absolutely his own the point of view held by him whom he wished to serve.

We have spoken of him and of his achievements as a servant of the public; of him as a friend and associate it is not easy to write. In private life, as in his public service, his greatest fault—if it be a fault—was a too complete obliteration of self. He accomplished much to which one can refer, but, after all, out of his life came a personal influence which was bigger and better than any concrete thing which he ever did.

Mr Hutchins was survived by a sister, Dorothy, who because she devoted her time for years wholly to her brother, has, through him, given herself no less unreservedly to the public service than did Frank Hutchins himself.

#### Recent Books on History

- Bechdolt, F. R.** Tales of the old-timers  
**Beresford, J. D.** Gossip of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries  
**Bracq, J. C.** Evolution of French Canada  
**Colman, E. M.** Seventy-five years of White House gossip  
**Faris, J. T.** Romance of forgotten towns  
**Frothingham, T. G.** Naval history of the World war  
**Greene, W. C.** Achievement of Greece  
**Grigg, E. W. M.** Greatest experiment in history  
**McIlwain, C. H.** American revolution  
**Morgan, J. H.** Present state of Germany  
**Nevins, A.** American states; during and after the revolution  
**Nicolay, H.** Our capital on the Potomac  
**Paxson, F. L.** History of the American frontier  
**Power, E. E.** Medieval people  
**Price, M. P.** Germany in transition  
**Rawlinson, A.** Adventures in the Near East  
**Robinson, J. H.** Our world today and yesterday

#### Under the Big Top

##### Circus days and circus ways

Long is the road twixt town and town that runs  
 Travelled by many a lordly cavalcade.

*Cecily Fox-Smith*

##### Tales of the circus

###### For children

- Adventures of Diggledy Dan, E. P. Norwood  
 Clown, the circus dog; from the French, Auguste Vimar  
 Dr Dolittle's circus, Hugh Lofting  
 Mr Stubb's brother, James Otis  
 Nicholas (chapter 17, The circus comes), Anne Carroll Moore  
 Toby Tyler, James Otis  
 Under the lilacs, L. M. Alcott

###### For little children

- The Brownies' circus, in The Brownies, their book  
 The Circus reader

###### For grown-ups

- Cuddy of the white tops, E. C. May  
 The mountebank, W. J. Locke  
 Polly of the circus, Margaret Mayo  
 Sunnyside Tad, P. V. Mighels

##### Circus life

- Careers of danger and daring: The aerial acrobat, The wild beast tamer, Cleveland Moffett  
 Under the big top, C. R. Cooper  
 Ways of the circus, George Conklin

##### Circus people

- The autobiography of a clown, Jules Turnour  
 Autobiography, P. T. Barnum  
 Barnum, M. R. Werner  
 Phineas Taylor Barnum, Gamaliel Bradford, in his Damaged souls

##### Lions 'n' tigers 'n' everything

- Behind the scenes with wild animals, Ellen Velvin  
 Jungle beasts I have captured, Charles Mayer  
 Lions 'n' tigers 'n' everything, C. R. Cooper  
 Training of wild animals, F. C. Bostock  
 Trapping wild animals in Malay jungles, Charles Mayer

##### The circus in literature

- The circus, and other essays, Joyce Kilmer  
 First lessons in clowning, Christopher Morley, in his Pipefuls  
 He who gets slapped (play), Leonid Andreev  
 The tumbler of Our Lady; translated from a Middle French manuscript by Alice Kemp Welsh

##### The amateur circus

- Amateur circus life, Ernest Balch  
 A backyard circus, A. N. Hall, in his Boy craftsman  
 A circus in the attic, D. C. Beard, in his Jack-of-all-trades  
 How to put on an amateur circus, F. A. Hacker  
 How to have a circus in the woods, D. C. Beard, in his Boy pioneers





This business library occupies 1420 square feet of floor space. The equipment was furnished by Library Bureau. The catalog case and the reference shelves are back of the camera and are not shown in this photograph.

#### **Development of a Business Library** **H. M. Bylesby & Company** **1909-1925**

About 15 years ago, the value of having a collection of reference material at hand impressed itself on those who were guiding the growing limits of H. M. Bylesby & Company, Chicago, as a factor worth considering in the rapidly extending affairs presenting themselves for attention. They realized that the proper development of such a plan needed a specialist in that line as the first step, and so they decided to employ a trained librarian who would recognize a possible value in collecting printed information bearing upon their business and systematically putting it to work for all the departments of their organization.

At that time, libraries in business houses in Chicago and elsewhere were very much in their infancy—there was no precedent or group rules to follow, and moreover, H. M. Bylesby & Company had no preconceived notions of a library as occupying much space or purchasing much material. They had no thought in creating a library simply for the sake of making a dignified showing. The sole aim was practical service in the simplest and most direct manner possible, and their purpose was well expressed in the statement made by their librarian, that "we will get only what we really need and we will not get anything irrelevant to our business."

The library resources of a large city always serve as an excellent background for a specialized business library, but are

never a substitute for it, because a business organization which is vitally interested in particular subjects will naturally collect and know more about those subjects than a general library. A business organization also wishes to have its vital material at its elbow, to use quickly as it sees fit, and which would be impossible with library material which is the property of other institutions.

Not only are freedom of use and saving of time important to the business organization, but so also is a librarian whose sole library interest is the interests of a particular firm, and who becomes saturated with a knowledge of the business and its confidential needs, and collects and selects information accordingly.

The strict adherence to this policy by H. M. Byllesby & Company during 15 years has resulted in the acquisition of a concentrated, comprehensive, up-to-date working library of data in every form, on every phase of the business of public utilities—their engineering, their operating, their financing—second to no other library of its kind in the United States.

Some of the interesting features of this library are: Complete collection of all laws, rules of practice and procedure, classification of accounts, annual reports, decisions and orders issued by every state commission regulating public utilities; Extensive pamphlet collection on the subject of customer ownership; Photograph file of every physical detail of all properties under Byllesby management; File of annual reports and offering sheets of public utility companies in the United States, with every financial manual and printed service on the market.

The practical value of such a collection needs no detailed exposition in the light of the well known methods by which modern business is conducted.

The day of guesswork or dependence on intuition is gone. The modern business man studies every underlying fact and all statistics available, and keeps his ears open to every bit of current news in making his daily important decisions. His library collects, organizes, and gives him the information which he needs, quickly, accurately, authoritatively.

An interesting feature in the development of this library has been its physical equipment. It started 15 years ago with six sectional bookcases and a desk. Today it is a model library in every physical detail with the latest and best equipment on the market. (*See page 193*)

The collection of printed information and fine housing and equipment, however, do not make in themselves an adequate library. There must always be added to these factors, trained librarianship, with a complete knowledge of sources, and the vision and ability to apply information to the problems of the particular organization. Byllesby & Company have been fortunate in having been able to keep the same librarian from the organization of its library to date, which has meant no loss of momentum, which is inevitable when a new librarian must take time to grow into a thorough knowledge of the business of any organization. The work has recently increased to such an extent that additional trained workers have been added to their staff.

It is a pleasure to note this growing appreciation of the value of library service by so important a corporation as H. M. Byllesby & Company at this particular time when the organization, moving into its new quarters at 231 S. La Salle street, is providing so splendidly for its library department.

The library profession may view with gratification the cooperative spirit and work of H. M. Byllesby & Company. They have always been ready to adopt professional standards and to assist, through their highly organized library, the growth and advancement of all libraries throughout the United States. They have been pleased to have their librarian work in national and state library organizations and contribute by writing and teaching to the general advancement of the library profession.

When the recent Financial library exhibit was held in Chicago, in connection with the American Bankers association, H. M. Byllesby & Company library was a large factor in making this exhibit a success.

### An American Librarian Visits Libraries in Europe

In London, I had the privilege of visiting and reading in the London library. Founded in 1842 by Thomas Carlyle, its roll of librarians, directors and patrons includes the most notable names in the English literary world. For a nominal subscription price, books are lent freely and are often sent to, and kept quite indefinitely, for example, by the professors of Oxford and Cambridge. Dr Hagberg Wright, the librarian, being familiar with most of the existing schemes of library classifications, has discarded them all and has developed a system of his own which he says is simple and practical and which keeps the books arranged on the shelves by subject. For the first time in my life, I found here a practice followed that I have always dreamed ought to be followed by every carefully selected library. Although expert care and discrimination are used in the acquisition of books, nevertheless deadweight material is bound to creep in, books that have proven of no value or have been superseded. These books are withdrawn from the regular shelves and are placed in a discard or test room, up to the number of 10,000, where they remain for 10 years. If at the end of that time they have not justified their *raison d'être*, they are finally discarded. The library has a rather uncanny reputation for having everything that could possibly be asked for. Someone said that if Satan himself should lose the keys to Hades, he could doubtless find the specifications for said keys in the London library!

In the Scandinavian countries, I found much in the public libraries that reminded me of home, e. g., the use of the Decimal classification, though often in a decidedly modified form, numerous branch libraries, state library commissions, etc. The university and learned libraries, often housed in beautiful new buildings, of course retain their European systems of arrangement. The Royal library (*det Kongelige Bibliotek*) in Copenhagen was exceptionally interesting. The building is a beautiful one, generous in proportions, with light, airy and convenient reading and

reference room, and with the most attractive staff and workroom I have ever seen. Here the books are arranged by subject. There are admirable alphabetic and systematic catalogs and, most inspiring of all, there are scholarly experts in charge of the various subjects. For example, the man who guided us about had his degree in Oriental literature and had complete charge of that subject in the library.

In Copenhagen, I learned much of the *Kvindelig Laeseforening*, which is a large subscription library for women. Here is a modern library with reading, reference and lecture rooms. Miss Sophie Alberti, who has done so much to make this a success, told me proudly that it was there in that library that the Dewey Decimal classification was first adopted in Europe, nearly 25 years ago.

In Berlin, I had letters of introduction that made it possible for me to see the good work that is being done by the *Bibliotheks-ausschuss der Notgemeinschaft der Deutschen Wissenschaften*. Deep appreciation was expressed for the help that certain American librarians have rendered. My visit to the *Preussische Staatsbibliothek* was far too brief to do justice to that famous collection of books. I met several of the librarians there who apologized for speaking to me in German but they had nearly forgotten their English since for more than 10 years they had had no need for it. Dr Peter Jessen, *Director der Staatlichen Kunstbibliothek*, revealed to me the treasures of what may be the finest and most carefully organized art collection in the world. I wish he might be persuaded to come to America and talk to us about the history of costume. He has an invaluable collection on that subject.

In Dresden, I did not visit libraries. The art gallery enthralled me and all my spare hours were spent there.

In Leipsic, the outstanding feature of interest was the *Deutsche Bücherei*. In spite of the unsettled conditions of the past 10 years, this seems to have progressed steadily. In 1913, the *Gesellschaft der Freunde der deutschen Bücherei* was founded with the aim of establishing a national repository for all books in the

German language. This is being done with the support of the state of Saxony and the German publishing trade, who deposit there every book published in Germany. On the edge of the city of Leipsic, with plenty of space for growth, lies the fine new building which I believe is but a third of what it will be some day. Within is found every modern equipment. New acquisitions of books are arranged on the shelves in chronological order of receipt. A detailed subject catalog on cards is being made. I was very much interested in the splendid map collection with its fine equipment to care for every conceivable form of map and with its detailed systematic (or subject) catalog on cards. Much bibliographical work is carried on by the *D. B.* Its reading and periodical rooms are open to the public.

I am writing this on the very eve of my departure from Paris for Italy. The three and one-half months spent here have been very happy ones, filled with many experiences that cannot be classified under the caption of library interests. A course in Bibliography followed at the *Ecolé des Chartes* has been helpful, and I have been proud to see the splendid work that is being done by the American library here and by the American library school.

GRACE O. KELLEY

John Crerar library  
Chicago

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Annie Florence Brown, executive secretary of the Lend-A-Hand society, Boston, Mass., in a recent article describing a visit through the mountainous regions of the Carolinas and Georgia, tells a story of much interest to those who are interested in the educational facilities of these regions. She speaks in the highest terms of the library work that has found its way into the various centers. Since the founding of the society 34 years ago, more than 250,000 volumes have been sent to these centers, with actually a ton of magazines and picture cards. During the past year, 242 boxes containing 4196 new books and 9817 second-hand books were sent out, making a total of 14,013.

## American Library Association

### Publishing plans

The 1925 publication season of A. L. A. is beginning to motivate. Among things planned for output are Drury's Viewpoints in modern drama and Long's County library service, followed by two short annotated reading lists, one for boys and one for girls, and an illustrated leaflet on planning the school library. Another publication will be Reasonable budgets for public libraries and their units of expense, by O. R. Howard Thomson. Two of a new series of A. L. A. reading courses will appear shortly—English literature by W. N. C. Carlton, and American literature by Dallas Lore Sharp. A reading list of more than usual interest is that on vocations for college women, compiled by Fanny Dunlap and Alice S. Johnson, which will appear soon.

A list of libraries maintaining facilities for serving the blind is now available. This list states the number of volumes in each type carried by each library and other information found useful in referring blind readers of any community to their nearest collections of embossed books. It is a reprint from the last report of the A. L. A. committee on work with the blind and is brought out by the American Foundation for the Blind, 41 Union Square, West, New York. Copies may be had from the Foundation or from the Library for the blind, New York public library.

Selections of 100 hymns from *The Hymnal* of the Protestant Episcopal church, and Science and Health with a key to the Scriptures (5v.) in Braille, have been placed in libraries having departments for the blind. Books for the blind are carried free thru the mails.

A list of books published by the Clear Type Publishing Society, Cleveland, O., in 24 and 36 point type for children with defective sight is available. For the benefit of a much larger public is the list of "Books for tired eyes" which is made up of books all printed in 12 point type or larger. It is sold for 35 cents a copy by the A. L. A.

**Latin-American fellowship**

A fellowship of \$1000 is announced by the American association of university women (Prof Agnes L. Rogers, Smith college, chairman of Committee on fellowships) open to women students of the Latin-American republics, its stated purpose being the preparation of well qualified women for some form of public service to their countries in education (including library work), social service or public health.

**Nominating committee's report of official ballot, 1925****President**

Charles F. D. Belden  
Librarian, Public library, Boston

**First vice-president**

Mrs Elizabeth Claypool Earl  
President, Indiana library commission,  
Muncie

**Second vice-president***(One to be elected)*

Johnson Brigham  
State librarian, Des Moines, Iowa  
Theodore W. Koch  
Librarian, Northwestern University library,  
Evanston, Ill.

**Treasurer**

Edward D. Tweedell  
Assistant librarian, John Crerar library,  
Chicago

**Trustee of endowment fund**

George Woodruff  
Vice-chairman, National Bank of the Republic, Chicago

**Members of executive board***(Two to be elected)*

Franklin F. Hopper  
Chief, Circulation department, Public library, New York City  
Willis H. Kerr  
Librarian, Kansas State teachers' college, Emporia  
Everett R. Perry  
Librarian, Public library, Los Angeles, Cal.  
Edith Tobitt  
Librarian, Public library, Omaha, Nebr.

**Members of the council***(Five to be elected)*

W. N. C. Carlton  
Librarian, Williams college, Williamstown, Mass.  
Theresa Hitchler  
Superintendent, Catalog department, Public library, Brooklyn, N. Y.  
Clara W. Hunt  
Superintendent, Children's department, Public library, Brooklyn, N. Y.  
Andrew Keogh  
Librarian, Yale University library, New Haven, Conn.  
Paul M. Paine  
Librarian, Public library, Syracuse, N. Y.

Samuel H. Ranck

Librarian, Public library, Grand Rapids, Mich.

Mary U. Rothrock

Librarian, Lawson McGhee library, Knoxville, Tenn.

Henry N. Sanborn

Librarian, Public library, Bridgeport, Conn.

Sula Wagner

Chief cataloger, Public library, St. Louis, Mo.

Joseph L. Wheeler

Librarian, Public library, Youngstown, Ohio

J. T. JENNINGS, chm.

CLARIBEL R. BARNETT

FLORENCE OVERTON

ALICE S. TYLER

M. G. WYER

**Program**

The chief topics for consideration at the conference will be: 1) The extension of library service to the sixty million people of the United States who still have none; 2) Adult education work of libraries; 3) Education for librarianship; 4) School libraries. Besides general sessions there will be more than 50 meetings of special groups and affiliated organizations: County librarians, business librarians, catalogers, hospital librarians, law librarians, children's librarians, library trustees, the Bibliographical society of America, the National association of state libraries, etc.

**An appeal for more members**

There are at least 10,000 librarians who are in thorough sympathy with the work of the A. L. A. Only 6000 of them have become members. The Membership committee is trying to enroll the 4000 librarians whose names do not appear in the *Handbook*.

Dues are \$4 or \$2 a year. The first entitles one to all numbers of the *Bulletin*; the second brings the *Bulletin* except the *Proceedings* and *Handbook*. The initiation fee is \$1.

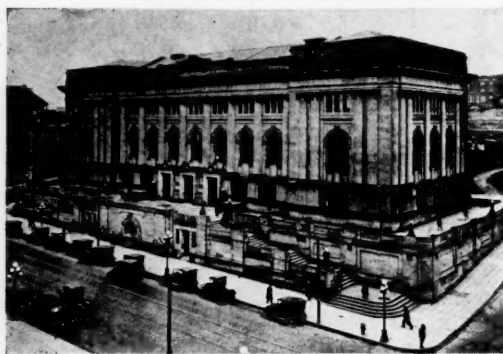
The Membership committee cannot reach everyone personally so it takes this means of inviting every librarian to join the association. Dues or requests for information may be sent to the American Library Association, 86 E. Randolph St., Chicago.



**Seattle meeting**

Every one is expected to arrange for a roommate, or pay double for sole occupancy of a room.

All hotels listed are on the European plan. The Olympic hotel will be headquarters, the rates ranging from \$3.50 to \$10 for one person and from \$5 to \$12 for two persons. All rooms have baths. Other less expensive hotels are the Calhoun, Frye, Gowman, Moore, New Washington, Penbrook, Spring apartment hotel, St. Regis and the Waldorf.



Main library building, Seattle

All requests for reservations should be addressed to Ralph Munn, Public library, Seattle, who requests that applicants for reservation observe the following: State definitely preference as to hotel, kind of room, rate desired and maximum price; name of roommate, or if none, whether local committee may assign a roommate; *date of arrival*; sign name legibly Mrs., Miss or Mr.

**Local matters**

Local committees will establish information desks at the railway stations during the first day of the conference and a desk will be maintained at the Olympic hotel throughout the week.

The Pacific Northwest library association and the local committees are planning entertainments which will be announced later.

There are many delightful short trips that may be taken to nearby places. Victoria, which is described as "more Eng-

lish than England," Vancouver and Portland are all within one day's travel. A two-hour trip by boat takes one to Tacoma and there are many other local boat, automobile and hiking trips which offer a variety of scenery. There are many excellent golf courses. Those who wish to return by way of California will find ocean-going steamships plying between Seattle and the California ports.

Anyone wishing advance information concerning local trips or resorts, other than the official post-conference trips, is invited to communicate with Effie L. Chapman, Public library, Seattle.

Members of clubs affiliated with the Associated Mountaineering clubs of North America will be welcome on trips conducted by The Mountaineers of Seattle.

Everyone is advised to take one heavy wrap. It may be warm during the daytime but Seattle nights are usually cool.

**Travel arrangements**

The regular summer excursion tickets, on sale, May 15, and good for return until October 31, allow return by a variable route and give opportunities for stopovers west of Chicago wherever desired. Local railroad agents will supply information as to fares from any part of the country.

There are six Northern return routes over which excursion tickets may be routed, and it is necessary to specify the return route desired when buying tickets. In addition, the return or going trip may be made through California at an added expense of \$18 for railroad ticket.

Those going with the special party must make immediate reservations with the Travel committee since all party travel or accommodations cannot be held.

Write to the special travel secretary of your locality for information and arrangements for any part of the trip.

In addition to the special travel party, another party will leave Minneapolis, Minn., July 1, over the Canadian Pacific, going through the famous Canadian Rockies. On arrival at Banff, July 3, an automobile ride through Johnson canyon to Lake Louise may be taken for \$5 a passenger. Hotel rates at Lake

Louise, where the night will be spent, are \$3, without meals. The party will have two hours at Vancouver and an hour and a half at Victoria, going by ship from Vancouver to Seattle.

Those who wish to join this party at Minneapolis should write to H. O. Severance, librarian, University of Missouri, Columbia, before June 1 so that reservations may be secured.

The post-conference trip to Alaska, July 11-20, is in charge of F. W. Faxon, with whom communications should be made at once. It is necessary to make a deposit at once, the money being returnable if necessary.

Another party will leave Seattle on the Admiral Line steamer, *Admiral Rogers*, sailing July 15, due back, July 27, covering practically the same Alaska trip as the first party, except that Vancouver will be omitted, and Sika, the old capital of Alaska, added, making it possible for those in this party, during one day at Skagway, to take the trip over the White Pass to the International boundary and return.

Expense of this rail day trip is \$7.50 extra. Cost of berth on steamer, including meals, \$100. Please send to F. W. Faxon \$25 as first payment, before April 30. Those taking this trip can also take the Rainier National Park trip before leaving for Alaska.

The return trip over the Canadian Pacific railroad will also be conducted by Mr Faxon via Rocky Mountain national park and Lake Louise; leave Vancouver, July 20, arriving at Lake Louise, July 21; remaining there until July 23, when party will leave by automobile for Banff via Morain lake and Johnson canyon; leave that evening for St. Paul and other Eastern places. Those who desire may return from Banff via Winnipeg and Canadian Pacific steamer, leaving Fort William, July 28, through the lakes to Port McNicoll on Georgian bay, thence to Toronto. This lake trip will cost little more than the all-rail trip.

The Mt. Ranier national park trip, July 11-14, will be made by auto all the way, leaving Seattle on the morning of July 11 and returning there on the eve-

ning of July 14. The three days will be spent at Paradise Inn. C. W. Smith, University of Washington library, is in charge of arrangements, to whom a deposit of \$10 should be sent at once.

The California and Grand Canyon trip will be in charge of John F. Phelan, Chicago, and will leave Seattle on the afternoon of July 11. Those desiring to take this trip should register at once and send deposit of \$10 before April 15.

Another return may be made through Yellowstone park, under the direction of Franklin H. Price, with whom registration and deposit should be made before April 10.

Details of an attractive horseback trip through Oregon Mts. will be given in next number of PUBLIC LIBRARIES. It is a trip of 25 days and will cost about \$175. Advance information may be had if desired, from C. E. Graves, State Teachers College, Arcata, Cal.

#### Meetings in Chicago

A. L. A. Headquarters are making arrangements for a group of meetings in Chicago, April 15-16. An all-day open meeting of the Board of education for librarianship will be held, April 16. At the morning session, Dr W. W. Charters of the University of Pittsburgh will speak on Formulating curricula standards for library schools. Minimum standards for the different types of library schools will be discussed.

In the afternoon the Commission for adult education will also bring in provisional reports on its work.

Two distinguished guests will be in attendance at the meetings—Colonel John Malcolm Mitchell of the Carnegie United Kingdom Trust, and Mr Robert Burns of the Carnegie Dunfermline Trust. They will speak at the general session on the evening of April 15.

A dinner open to librarians will be held on the evening of April 16, at which time opportunity will be given to meet the distinguished guests.

Sarah C. N. Bogle, A. L. A. assistant secretary, will sail for France about April 25.

### The Copyright Situation

Log-rolling time has come for the Perkins (Solberg) copyright bill (H. R. 11258). The hearings are over, the record in print, and a sub-committee appointed to reach an agreement. There the public loses a leg unless it be nimble and assertive; for, while they are millions to the reproducers' hundreds, it is the hundreds that fill conference rooms, and their talk took 60 per cent of the 548-page total, leaving about 100 each to authors and composers and 21 to those that pay the bills!

The motion picture representatives question Mr Solberg's accuracy as a draughtsman. A reader of their patchwork Dallinger bill will not be much impressed by this charge.

The talking machine and like folk want to continue compelling the composer to accept two cents a roll and every offer. Where is there a parallel?

The broadcasters demand a wide range of free use, and fixed royalty beyond that. Pity the authors!

The printers stick to the manufacturing clause (limited to American authors?) having copyright dependent upon making the work in the United States. Yet you cannot steal my Swiss watch with impunity.

The publishers want a hand in all importations of foreign works which they reprint, and here they get on the toes of everybody that requires books from abroad. The fight of Education is with them, as four times before in the past thirty-five years. The Perkins bill lets anyone bring in a foreign original, whether or not reprinted here. We have always had that right, and no contrary statute the world over can be cited. The publishers propose, however, a substitute for Sec. 41, whereby we must buy through them the foreign originals they reprint. That hits all foreign acquisitions, for we could not be sure in any instance there was no American reprint without first inquiring of the Copyright office. Thus hamper all Education for the profit of a few, very few publishers who would be better employed sending American books around the earth than harassing our acquisition of foreign ones and increasing their cost by double publications? If we owe them a bounty, let Congress try to pay it in the usual way—the tariff. As for writers, at home or abroad, Congress owes them naught save protection against infringement, i.e., unauthorized reproduction.

The Perkins bill changes past practice here in one respect. It forbids importation of authorized foreign reprints of American works when the American publisher records such desire. There are in this much the same practical difficulties as above cited, so that libraries will expect the usual exemption, though not applying to those buying for sale.

The extended presentation of the libraries' case is to be found in the Hearings of January 22 and especially February 10. A reprint of the latter in the *A. L. A. Bulletin* is assured.

But whether or not you can see this, write at once to the sub-committee of five: Messrs Florian Lampert, of Wisconsin; Randolph Perkins, of New Jersey; Frank R. Reid, of Illinois; Fritz G. Lanham, of Texas; and Sol Bloom, of New York; and send a copy to your own representative in the Sixty-ninth Congress. Leave the Senate alone at present, though Chairman Ernst has introduced the bill (S. 4355). Commend the bill as opening the way to United States membership in the International Copyright Union, but oppose the publishers' interference with our importation rights.

M. LLEWELLYN RANEY, chairman  
CARL L. CANNON  
ASA DON DICKINSON  
HILLER C. WELLMAN  
PURD B. WRIGHT  
A. L. A. committee on bookbuying

### Children's Books

The Committee on the Production of children's books requests that all librarians interested in the republication of the following books communicate as soon as possible with the chairman, stating the approximate number of copies which the library would probably need each year. The decision of the publishers as to the reissue of these out-of-print books depends upon the support which can be expected from public and school libraries and the regularity of the demand. The price of the books if reissued will depend to some extent upon the size of the edition printed and this decision may be affected by the response to this notice.

Brooke, The tailor and the crow, Warne  
Church, Stories of Charlemagne, Macmillan  
French, Heroes of Iceland, Little  
Moses, Charles Dickens and his girl heroines, Appleton  
Pollard, Stories from Old English romance, Stokes  
Schultz, Story of Colette, Appleton  
Steedman, When they were children, Nelson  
Taylor, Little Ann, and other poems, Warne  
Wilmot-Buxton, Stories from old French romance, Stokes

The committee also wishes to call especial attention to the following books which have been unobtainable for some time and which are being republished this spring: Aesop, Fables, with illustrations by Arthur Rackham, Doubleday  
Comstock, The Pet book, Comstock Pub. Co.  
Marshall, History of France, Doran  
Quiller-Couch, The Roll call of honour, Nelson

The committee has been in communication with the publishers regarding the

duplication of pictures in especially illustrated books for children, pictures which are useful for bulletin work and for circulation apart from the books for which they were designed. Publishers are willing to consider the rendering of this service provided there is an assured demand for a sufficient quantity to justify the labor involved in providing the special stock of illustrations. The probable cost of each set would be one dollar. All librarians who are interested in obtaining sets of illustrations by N. C. Wyeth, Jessie Willcox Smith and others are asked to notify the chairman promptly. If the response is adequate the committee will continue its negotiations with the publishers.

Elva S. Smith, chairman,  
Committee on the Production of children's books  
Carnegie library, Pittsburgh

#### Illinois Library Institutes

The conference held at Elmhurst on February 6 was attended by over 50 librarians and trustees. The program covered a wide range of interests and the discussions were entered into with fine spirit. Some of the topics discussed were the book collection and technical records, presented by Anna May Price, which, with discussion of the Patron and the librarian, led to the much talked of subject, adult education. William Teal, in presenting some new aids, stressed the service the A. L. A. is giving to small libraries, viz., standing orders for all new A. L. A. publications under \$3.

A vote showed that Learned's American public library and the diffusion of knowledge, and Wheeler's Library and the community had been read by many.

About 20 librarians attended the library institute held in Collinsville, February 19. Considering the inaccessibility of the place, the attendance was unusually good. Discussions were spirited, especially that relating to the patron and the librarian. Little was reported in the way of organized effort toward promoting adult education although a recital of the work done showed that the idea is appreciated.

The mayor of the city gave the guests a warm welcome at the morning session. All the trustees of the Collinsville public library were present at the luncheon and throughout the meeting there was an atmosphere of cordial hospitality.

The institute at Urbana was held, February 13. About 25 persons were present. The meetings were conducted by Anna May Price, Illinois state library.

Frances Simpson, University of Illinois library school, said that the public had a right to expect from the librarian a pleasant personality, an abundance of tact, accompanied by appropriate dress and neat appearance. The library should also present an orderly appearance. The librarian should be able to write a legible letter. It is discourtesy not to answer every letter received by the library on whatever subject.

Anne M. Boyd, University of Illinois library school, stressed the obligation of the library to maintain a high standard of reading for children, otherwise those children already well trained at home would find their taste vitiated by the books on the shelves of the library. It is right to expect that the library will give nothing to young people that cannot be classed as informational, educational or inspirational. Anything else is a mispending of public funds for a purpose with no foundation either in law or ethics.

The librarian from Paxton brought out the problem of lack of interest in the library or its service and little means for extension work of any kind.

Mary Eileen Ahern, representing the I. L. A., reviewed the association's work from the early days to the present, comparing its development to the agricultural endeavors of the state in clearing, planting and harvesting. The present duty seems to be raising standards for the work, for more equitable support, spreading the library spirit among trustees and the public, and creating professional zeal among librarians. It was pointed out that local libraries are object lessons for new recruits to the work and, therefore, should keep high personal and professional standards.

The claims of the state meeting in Rockford next October were earnestly presented.

The chairman of the meeting, in discussing new aids, commended Learned's American public library and the diffusion of knowledge, Wheeler's Library publicity, Ward's Publicity for public libraries, and the Keystone views, announcing that the State library was prepared to lend all of these to libraries when they could not be procured locally.

Difficulty in obtaining document information from Washington brought the suggestion that camping on the trail of congressmen and senators was helpful.

The chairman announced that a bill for county libraries would be introduced in the Illinois legislature. The difference between this bill and former bills lies in a provision in this bill that a tax would be levied on all the county uniformly, and later a return be made to the cities of their part in the sum.

The representative of the I. L. A. asked for support of the bill for state and county parks in Illinois, in which she was supported by P. L. Windsor, University of Illinois library school.

At Benton, on February 20, 14 libraries were represented by librarians and trustees, 31 being in attendance. Anna May Price presided at the morning session.

Effie A. Lansden, librarian, Cairo public library, was in charge of the second session. As representative of the Illinois library association, she spoke for it and the I. L. A., and on recruiting for librarianship.

A delightful luncheon was given the guests at the Benton country club by the Board of trustees of the library.

The new library is housed in two rooms on the second floor of an office building on the city square. There is a fine collection of all new books, making a most attractive showing and the interest in the new library is very apparent. Helen S. Dickson is librarian.

Topics of interest to all sizes of libraries were freely discussed at both sessions and the feeling was expressed that many helpful ideas were gained by those in attendance.

Six new members were secured for the state association.

About 30 librarians attended the institute held in Joliet, February 27, coming from libraries in the vicinity—Maywood, Ottawa, Oglesby, Pontiac. There were no set speeches but a general and hearty discussion in which nearly everyone present participated. The regular program prepared for this season's institutes was carried out. The topics which seemed most fruitful for discussion were the proportion of money spent for books, books and periodicals versus ephemeral material, what the patron has a right to expect of the librarian and the general subject of adult education. Practically every librarian present testified to doing already much of what those sponsoring the movement for adult education are stressing, and expressed a desire to receive additional information and instruction. Practically none present had read Dr Learned's American public library and the diffusion of knowledge and President G. B. Utley, Newberry library, Chicago, I. L. A. delegate, took occasion to recommend its careful perusal, giving in brief some of its strong points.

The library institute held in Lawrenceville, March 6, was not largely attended but was extremely worth while in spirit and discussions. The program was the same as for the other Illinois institutes, everyone present joining in the discussions.

The librarians were urged to make a budget in order to determine what per cent of the library's income is used for buying books and the average cost of each book. Discussion brought out that library directors should do work on the board, and that librarians should be alert for audible, silent and potential demands for books. Rental collections were suggested to care for the demand for ephemeral material. Important help for selecting books is found in the *Booklist*, Standard catalog of fiction and the annual list of *Best Books for Small Libraries* (N. Y.).

Mary J. Booth, librarian, Eastern Illinois State teachers' college, Charleston, was the I. L. A. representative at the institute.



The well selected books in the Lawrenceville library attracted the attention of the visitors.

The tenth library institute was held at the Public library, Moline, March 13. Anna May Price of the State library presided and led the discussions. The regular program for the series was followed and the discussions all proved of interest. The most interest developed in the discussion of what books to discard and what books to keep in order to have a live library.

The visitors were the guests of the Library board at a luncheon.

Anna F. Hoover, Galesburg, opened the afternoon session with a message from the Illinois library association. She stressed the desirability of all libraries, librarians, assistants and trustees allying themselves with the state organization and also the national association, thereby lending their support to the work of the organizations. The question of recruiting for librarianship was stressed, particularly the help of individual librarians in personal conference with promising candidates who may be found in every community. The great demand for trained workers, the upward trend in library salaries, the variety of the work in the library field, and the genuine pleasure and satisfaction derived from this form of public service were pointed out. A strong urge was made for attendance at the Rockford meeting, October 14-16.

At the close of Miss Hoover's talk, nine new members were enrolled in the I. L. A.

In the discussion of technical records, the value of such records as aids toward standards and as a measure of service was emphasized. Several new aids to library work—Learned's American public library and the diffusion of knowledge, Wheeler's Public library and the community, Ward's Library publicity, and Know your own library in *Illinois Libraries*, October, 1924, were stressed by Miss Price.

About 30 persons were registered.

### Ontario Library Association

The annual meeting of the Ontario library association for 1925 will be held at the Public library, Toronto, April 13-14. This meeting is to be in the nature of a celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the founding of the association and the program will partake of the quality of such an occasion. There will be an anniversary dinner on Monday night at the King Edward hotel.

A special anniversary feature will be the publication of a historical volume which will present a sketch of the public library movement in Ontario, with the main emphasis on the relation of the Ontario library association thereto. There will also be included in the volume a summary of proceedings of the annual meetings and other data of permanent reference value. The book will be illustrated and will contain about 140 pages. This volume will make a distinct contribution to the story of the development of libraries on the American continent and as such will have a place in the reference libraries of the same.

### A Carnegie Gift

The Carnegie Corporation of New York has just announced a grant of \$50,000 to the League of library commissions to be spent during the next three years in making what, for want of a better term, may be called a library demonstration. The League will select one or more states which so far have not emphasized the importance of libraries in the lives of their citizens, and will endeavor to show them the real value of books to the school child, the woman in the home, and the man in office, shop and on the farm. It is hoped and confidently expected that the demonstration may be so convincing as to induce the people in the state entered to go ahead on their own initiative when the League shall have finished its work.

The committee of the League in charge of the project is made up of Milton J. Ferguson, chairman, C. B. Lester and Fannie C. Rawson.

### Library Meetings

**Boston**—The Special library association of Boston met, March 2, at a supper at the Y. M. C. A. The experiment of a supper round-table met with such success that it will be continued on a larger scale at future meetings.

M. Mooney, chairman of the Education committee, reported that the library courses which began in December would end in March. He also offered to act as distributing agent for all bibliographies and helpful ideas and facts sent to him.

Dean Churchill, Northeastern University law school, welcomed the association and gave a brief and interesting history of the growth of the university under the guidance of President Speare. It has been said that the distinctive contribution of Northeastern university to education is in its taking its campus to the men—branches of its evening schools are located in Worcester, Springfield, Providence, New Haven, and to some extent in Bridgeport where the same high standards are maintained. And yet, with all the technical training, the greatest emphasis is placed on character building.

When Mr Appel, Music division, Boston public library, had completed his illustrated lecture on the evolution of musical instruments, everyone wished that it was possible to attend his weekly lectures on the Symphony programs.

**California**—The First district held an all day meeting at the Fairmont hotel, San Francisco, February 28. President F. M. Bumstead and Secretary Alice Charlton, both of the University of California library, had charge of the meeting.

The general topic of the meeting, Adult education, was introduced by Helena Critzer who reviewed Dr Learned's work, The American public library and the diffusion of knowledge, emphasizing the constructive nature of his suggestions and pointing out that the librarian's best point of view on adult education is the personal rather than the official. Carleton Joeckel, Berkeley public library, chairman of the special California Library Association committee for coöperation with the University of California extension division in the compilation of

adult reading lists for the use of the libraries of the state, outlined the progress of the committee's work. The committee plans to place the lists on a subscription basis, using a service scale in regulating the cost to the library. Chaplain Fred-eric Howard, Seamen's Institute, San Francisco, spoke of the need for books to supply the fishing vessels now leaving San Francisco for the far north; April 19-25 had been designated Book week for this purpose. H. O. Parkinson, Stockton, president, California library association, told of the rapidly forming plans for the annual meeting to be held in Eureka, June 29-July 1. K. Dorothy Ferguson, librarian of the Bank of Italy's main office, discussed the value of the work of the special librarians of San Francisco in coöperating to "take the guess-work out of business," and cited as an example of their methods the establishment of a centralized file of information at the San Francisco chamber of commerce.

Mrs Anne Godfrey of the United States Naturalization service described the work of this department in California, stressing those features wherein the librarians may most effectively coöperate for the furtherance of adult education among the foreign-born. One-fifth of California's population is non-English-speaking foreign-born, and one-fifth have one or both parents non-English-speaking foreign-born, according to Mrs Godfrey. She stated that the librarian's friendliness is a definite appeal to the foreign-born, and once having gained his interest, it is comparatively easy to lead him through the literature of his own country to a study of the institutions and ideals of America. She said that although undoubtedly the cultured foreigner is more interesting to the librarian, and more agreeable to meet, our real work is with the uncultured foreigner and that we must constantly strive to counteract his erroneous ideas of American standards, usually gleaned from the "movies," and to ward off the destructive influences of the radical foreign literature, especially the foreign language newspapers and periodicals. She urged all librarians to

make sure that every library contains ample aids for the study of the American constitution, and concluded that our aim should be to glean from all nationalities the best that they have to offer.

Mr Halloran, editor of *Radio*, gave a most timely talk on the radio as a factor in adult education, connecting the library with this rapidly increasing factor in American life. He said that radio, although begun as an entertainment feature, was destined to become one of the greatest powers in adult education. He showed how radio benefits reading, first, by means of book reviews which stimulate interest in the better books and which are now being given by over 500 stations; and second, by keeping the people home, and thus giving them leisure for reading. Mr Halloran believes that book reviews given by radio are reaching a cross-section of the public never before touched. He described the direct educational programs given by the various Pacific Coast stations, and urged librarians to get before the microphone with their message.

E. J. Carlson, the last speaker on the program, told of the work of the circulation department of the University of California library.

The program allowed a generous amount of time for intimate discussions of individual library problems, and by no means the least pleasing feature of the meeting was the luncheon in the Grey room of the hotel, where the tables were decorated with the choicest of California's earliest spring blossoms.

The Sixth district held its annual meeting at Riverside, February 21, under the leadership of President Charles F. Woods, Riverside public library, and Secretary Mabel Inness, A. K. Smiley, public library, Redlands. An interesting feature of the meeting was an exhibit of painting and sculpture by Italian, Russian and American artists.

The morning session opened with an address by Raymond Best of the Board of trustees, Riverside public library, who, in speaking on The legal aspects of the pay shelf, gave his opinion that the maintenance of such a shelf is illegal, accord-

ing to the library law of California. State Librarian Milton J. Ferguson spoke on future library development, urging closer relations between business men and the library, and stressing the importance of serving the people of the isolated country districts. Gladys Caldwell, Los Angeles public library, in commenting on the relation of the library to the musical interests of the community, suggested the purchase of phonograph records for small libraries, which could be loaned to women's clubs, music study clubs and high schools. Coöperation with musical associations and music committees, and the observance of National music week were discussed.

The afternoon session was featured by a very enjoyable address by Armando Thomas Bissiri, Pomona college, who spoke on Modern Spanish literature. Prof Bissiri sketched the development of Spanish literature from the twelfth to the present century, stressing the work of the nineteenth century novelists, as well as that of the representative Spanish dramatists.

President H. A. Kendal, Eureka free library, called a meeting of the Seventh district, February 10, to honor State Librarian Milton J. Ferguson who was visiting libraries in the district, and to arouse interest in the thirtieth anniversary meeting of the California library association to be held in Eureka in June. The meeting took the form of a dinner. Mr Ferguson gave the principal address and most enthusiastic talks were given by representatives of the women's clubs, the press, and the Chamber of commerce.

**Chicago**—Types of libraries in Chicago was the subject of the program of the Chicago library club at the March meeting. Nathan R. Levin, assistant librarian of Chicago public library, chairman for the evening, presented a list of representative speakers. Rev John F. Lyons, librarian, Virginia library, McCormick Theological seminary, said that this institution was a center for theological education in the city and represented many groups in and near Chicago. Virginia library has a beautiful building with a

capacity of 500,000v., now having 55,000v., but is growing at the rate of 1500v. a year. Constituents are students and faculty; there is no limit to the number of books borrowed by one person, no fines; serves ministers of all denominations and encourages inter-library loans; specializes in postal service to alumni and others interested. Book bulletins are issued twice a year to the alumni, who pay a small fee. The faculty aids in the compilation of this list.

Mrs Pyrrha Sheffield Cafferata, librarian, Portland Cement association, told of the growing use of that library. The Portland Cement association was organized in 1902 and the library in Chicago founded in 1916. It now has 35,000 books and pamphlets on cement and has in a year about 25,000 inquiries, some questions covering extensive and intensive research. The work of the library extends to about 90 per cent of the membership of the association, comprising 29 district engineers' offices. Information is supplied on specific phases of given subjects and bibliographies are compiled along special lines. The work of the library is growing each year and answers many questions from other libraries in regard to road specifications and allied subjects.

Mrs R. E. Priddatt, librarian, American Bakers' association, described her library which comprises about 5000 books and 10,000 pamphlets on fermentology. The use of the library is available to anyone interested.

Mrs Ruth Z. Schmeiser, librarian, St. Luke's Hospital library, enthusiastically outlined her work at that institution: First, work with patients in the wards; second, with patients in private rooms; third, work with nurses and internes; fourth, with helpers in the hospital. Library carts containing many books are wheeled around to each patient once a week when they may make selections and return books they have borrowed. One evening a week at a convenient hour the library is open for the nurses and internes. There is also a story hour for the children.

The Ryerson library of the Art institute was represented by Alice P. Bixby who told of that interesting library of books on fine arts which serves the students and officials of that institution. The Burnham library of architecture, of 4000 volumes, comprises what is best in that line. An extensive collection of lantern slides and photographs is the property of the library. These are loaned to any responsible interested person. There is a department of prints and drawings and one being built up of books on Oriental art. There is also a library in the Department of dramatic art, comprising books on the theatre, design and stage furnishings.

John F. Phelan, chief of branches, Chicago public library, presented figures from the library report for 1924. The 39 branches and 7 high-school branches circulated 460,000v. The individual turnover of branch collections was from 8 to 24 times, 3,250,000 was adult circulation, 145,000 circulation of foreign books representing 21 languages, 77,000 registration for the year in branches. Mr Phelan sketched the character of the population of the neighborhoods adjacent to the various branches.

Dr C. W. Andrews, librarian, John Crerar library, in his news notes, touched on the interest of the Carnegie Corporation in library matters making possible the sponsoring of the A. L. A. of the adult education movement, and the "survey."

Dr Andrews specially stressed the importance of the union list of serials now under consideration and the preparation by the Classification committee of the A. L. A. of a key giving the relation between Decimal and Library of Congress classification which would be of great help to librarians using Library of Congress cards and the Decimal classification.

C. B. Roden, chairman of the committee that had been appointed a year ago to compile a survey of educational agencies in Chicago, reported that inasmuch as the Chicago public library is now working along the line proposed, the committee recommended that the club's project for compilation be abandoned and the committee discharged.

The preparation for the fiftieth anniversary of the A. L. A. in 1926, of which Carl B. Roden is chairman, was mentioned.

M. LILLIAN RYAN  
Secretary

**Cleveland**—The library club of Cleveland, O., discussed adult education at its meeting, February 25, under the direction of Prof C. C. Arbuthnot, Department of economics, Western Reserve university. Out of his long experience in university extension, Prof Arbuthnot discussed types and classes reached and the channels used. The need of a larger sympathetic teaching force and a literature treating the subjects in a simpler and more elementary form was stressed.

Linda A. Eastman, librarian, Cleveland public library, described the progress of the A. L. A. commission on adult education, of which she is a member, and told of coöperative efforts which have been made in Cleveland by various cultural organizations.

**Connecticut**—On February 12, the New York regional catalog group took advantage of the invitation extended by Anna M. Monrad, Yale University library, to visit that library and other places in New Haven of special interest to librarians and catalogers.

The group went first to the New Haven public library, where Mr Cowing talked about "annotations to the catalog." This visit was followed by a luncheon, when the number of guests was swelled by the Yale members and Miss Tucker, of Harvard. During luncheon, there was an informal discussion on the construction and arrangement of catalog rooms, led by Miss Prescott, Columbia, Miss Cragin, New York public library, president of the group, and Miss Monrad, Yale.

Afterwards adjournment was made to the university, where the hosts of the day had made every provision that each guest might see the places of his special interest. In the catalog department, Miss Monrad fully outlined the organization of the department and its work, and Miss Fuller explained the arrangement and working of the serial catalog. Many vis-

ited the various special collections, Mr Troxell speaking particularly of the Aldis collection of American literature. There was time, also, to inspect the new Harkness memorial quadrangle and to visit the Children's bookshop and the Brick Row shop.

At the tea with which the visit closed, Mr Keogh showed the plans for the proposed new library building.

It was the consensus of opinion that the program was an inspiration on the part of the committee that planned it.

**District of Columbia**—The close of a successful year was celebrated, February 20, by the District of Columbia library association. President Miles O. Price introduced Rebecca B. Rankin, librarian, New York Municipal reference library, and Fred Telford, of the Bureau of public personnel administration, both of whom made interesting addresses.

Miss Rankin discussed recent library activities in New York City and told of progress on the new edition of the Special Libraries directory in which about 100 Washington libraries will be included. Mr Telford told of progress in developing test questions covering the various library positions and distributed some interesting examples of such test questions.

Mr Price called particular attention to the work of the Membership committee which resulted in adding some 130 new members. This committee included: Martha L. Gericke, chairman; Ruth Todd, Georgiana Fenton and Caroline Klager.

Upon motion of H. H. B. Meyer, it was "Resolved that the District of Columbia library association express its high appreciation of the work the retiring president, Miles O. Price, has done as chairman of the several committees having under consideration matters relating especially to problems of allocation, from which the members of the District of Columbia library association and all other librarians as well have been benefited." Upon motion of Dorsey W. Hyde, Jr., the meeting also voted an expression of its appreciation of the untiring efforts of Emma V. Baldwin in the interest of im-



proved facilities for post-graduate training in library science in Washington and elsewhere.

The following officers for 1925 were elected: Clara W. Herbert, president; Clarence W. Perley, vice-president; Robina Rae, secretary; Sara Abbott, treasurer; Isabel Du Bois, Emma B. Hawkes, and John D. Wolcott, executive committee.

ROBINA RAE  
Secretary

#### Coming meetings

The South Carolina library association will meet in Charleston, April 13-14.

The Alabama library association will hold a meeting at Mobile, April 15, and at Fairhope, April 16-17.

The 1925 meeting of the Kentucky library association will be held in Middlesboro, May 7-8.

The annual meeting of the Rhode Island library association will be held, April 24, at Elmwood public library, Providence.

The Tennessee library association will hold its annual meeting at George Peabody college, Nashville, April 9-11, in connection with the meeting of the State teachers' association. After the address of welcome, responded to by the president, Nora Crimmins, librarian, Public library, Chattanooga, Mary U. Rothrock, Lawson McGhee library, Knoxville, will discuss "What the Tennessee library association should mean to the library, the staff and you." At the second session, the question of the social service aspect of library work in Tennessee will be presented by Olive May, librarian, Goodwyn Institute, Memphis, under three phases, rural population, children and negroes. A round-table on "To count or not to count," conducted by Charles Stone, librarian, Peabody college, will discuss inventory, reference questions and time, readers and circulation. The third session will be a book review round-table when the topic, "The romance of collecting," will be discussed under the leadership of Alice Drake, Jackson public library.

#### Interesting Things in Print

A list of 101 books which every boy and girl should read before leaving high school has been prepared by the Public library, Kansas City, Mo., and posted on the bulletin boards of the high schools of that city.

It is announced that a little volume of poetry by the late lamented Robert G. Welsh will be issued shortly by D. Appleton & Company. The price of the volume is \$1.50. It may be had directly from the publishers.

The Mutual interests of the medical social worker and the hospital librarian, an article by Perrie Jones, hospital librarian, Public library, St. Paul, Minn., read before the meeting of the American Hospital association in Buffalo last fall, has been issued as a reprint.

A leaflet under the title, *The Play's the thing*, issued by the Public library, Indianapolis, Ind., lists under seven headings the choice material in the library relating to the drama. The headings are Studies of the stage, Art of the theatre, Behind the scenes, Miniature stage, Theatre Guild plays, Magazines, and Collections of one-act plays. The list was compiled by Justine Pritchard.

The 1924 handbook of the Public library, Detroit, Mich., is not only full of information about the service of that notable institution but is at the same time a very admirable piece of typographical art. The illustrations are beautiful and the historical data and information concerning the library's service make the booklet worthy of a place in the reference room of any library.

*Bulletin* No. 4 of the Reference service on international affairs, 10, Rue de l'Élysée, Paris, France, deals with external governmental indebtedness. The pamphlet of 48p. presents the outstanding external debts of the countries of the world, arranged in alphabetical order. The appendices contain very illuminating information concerning secured and unsecured debts, together with foreign credits of France, Great Britain and the United States. An interesting section is

a table of the par value and value of major currencies as against the United States dollar.

A bibliography on City planning has just been published by the Carnegie library, Pittsburgh. The books on the list were selected from a much larger number available, but they present a comprehensive view of the historical development of city planning and its state at the present time. Most of the books are written by Americans for American conditions, yet those included which relate to English and Continental practice are among the most elaborate. A bibliography was compiled in connection with a City Planning exhibition held at Carnegie Institute. A copy will be sent through the mail for five cents.

*The Gold Star List of American Fiction, 1821-1925*, issued by the Public library, Syracuse, N. Y., has made its eighth appearance. As is probably already well known, the *Gold Star List* contains 500 titles, classified by subject, with notes, prepared by the staff of the Syracuse public library, which in itself is an earnest of good judgment in selection. The list is accompanied by a "map of good stories, this being a map of the United States on which is marked the territory or rather locality featured in certain books of American fiction that have appeared within the dates included. The "map of good stories" is very attractive, is particularly valuable for historical reference and could be used with profit in any library in the country. The maps are printed separately and may be purchased from the Syracuse public library at a trifling cost.

Recent publications by the A. L. A. (See p. 196), while planned primarily for use by library patrons, will, all of them, provide good food for assimilation by librarians and library trustees. The courses in literature and the list of vocations ought to have special value for general members of the staff and, while O. R. Howard Thomson's book outlining the foundation of a budget for public library, selecting as a type a city of 30,000 inhabitants, contains information for the average librarian, all trustees could, with

profit to themselves and their calling, make this information a part of their mental equipment for use in conducting the affairs of the library of which they have assumed charge. The suggestions are on how to figure costs for books, building charges, administration, extension work and special activities in relation to appropriations as they are found in library revenue, divided into salaries, upkeep, etc.

An interesting pamphlet has been issued by the Green Bay historical society, Wis., prepared by Deborah B. Martin, librarian, Kellogg public library, Green Bay. The pamphlet gives the early history of Green Bay and the surrounding country, gathered from original manuscripts and documents not heretofore printed, and from valuable papers read before the society since its organization. Besides being a beautiful region, the Green Bay district is as full of romance and interest as well as important development as any part of the United States, much more so than many regions which have exploited a small amount of historical interest for publicity and commercial purposes.

The Green Bay historical museum contains most extraordinary material left by the early settlers. It is the country to which French, English and Indian activities in the early days brought celebrated adventurers and settlers. It is said to have been the refuge of the Lost Dauphin of France, and names famous not only in the early records of the country but in the history of the United States cluster about it.

A document full of human interest, replete with instruction and information and brimming with inspiration is the *Letter to Libraries* sent out by the Oregon state library, Salem, to the libraries of the state. A survey of the contents of No. 1, 1925, recently received, shows why the small libraries of Oregon are moving up the line in intelligence and power as centers of education and inspiration for their various communities. The state librarian, who is supervisor of small libraries for the state of Oregon, frankly states to her readers the situation con-

cerning mistaken notions relating to the work and purpose of the library which led to decreased appropriation for its support.

The book notes in *Letter to Libraries* not only appraise definite books which the state librarian favors for library purchase but give short historical and personal notes concerning each book. These are offered, with extracts from the books or perhaps from opinions written about the books. For instance, the librarian states: "The following books are excellent and give the child the historical background he should have in childhood. You ought to have the whole series." Cleveland leaflet, *Books for the family*, is called "one of the nicest lists of books for children I have ever seen."

Attention is called to the railway posters sent out by Norway and France, and instructions are given for making exhibits with books and posters. A number of copies of "Play production for the country theater" are offered for free distribution to the first applicants. The discussion of books is too long to permit giving any notion of its contents but it is presented in a form that makes even the casual reader wish to possess at once the books which brought out these comments.

Information as to Oregon books and their authors, as to possible lecturers and their fees, pictures and other things relating to Oregon are most attractively set out.

*Letter to Libraries* is one of the few publications which does not hesitate to commend or disparage material and supplies in the market, hewing straight to the line regardless of where the chips fall. Hunting's revolving dictionary stand is commended (as it is also by PUBLIC LIBRARIES).

Important items are some recent new fiction for rental collections, recent popular reprints, government documents for the ordinary library and other material.

Five inclosures go with the letter, all of which are as full as the letter itself of information valuable to library workers not only in Oregon but anywhere.

### Books

In the past few years there has been a renewed interest in the South Seas, and books, good, bad and sensational, have been read because they described a white man's experiences in the tropic isles of the Pacific. One of the good kind has just come from the press but it is in danger of being overlooked by the general reader as it is issued by a university as a report of a scientific expedition.

In 1922, six professional naturalists from the State university of Iowa visited Fiji and New Zealand for the purpose of research in the fields of botany, geology and zoology. Needless to say the report is of immense and permanent value in libraries specializing in those sciences.

But public libraries should note that a large share of the book is of interest to the non-technical reader. As a travel narrative, it is delightfully written with the advantage that it leaves the truth undistorted. And not all literary travelers are honored at a vice-regal dinner given by Viscount Jellicoe whose name was cabled over the world following the battle of Jutland. Nor are all tourists entertained at the home of Ratu Popé who is a most courteous host, as well as grandson of the last Fiji king.

As the general reader's knowledge of the Fijians is very indefinite beyond the fact that they are black and have an excess of hair, it is worth while to quote from the chapter upon the natives:

"Taking it all in all, every one of our little party considers the Fijians the finest race of natives that he has seen, and some of us have had a rather extensive acquaintance with native peoples. It is quite evident, moreover, that the colonial officials have a real admiration for the Fijians with whom they, of course, have had long and intimate contact." This agrees with Major Chapple's estimate who says that their conduct is so admirable that "Hyde park and Brighton beach would shock them to stupefaction."

To go out in the rough seas of New Zealand in a trawler with a fishing crew was the kind of unusual adventure which would delight Jack London or Harry

Franck, yet Prof Nutting seemed to enjoy it thoroughly while at the same time he gathered valuable specimens of submarine life, which formed his objective.

As unusual souvenirs of such a trip, this party of naturalists brought home (not without many difficulties) four living specimens of tuatara (spenodons), a form of reptile that has survived from the Triassic age only in this one form and only in New Zealand.

Fiji—New Zealand expedition by C. C. Nutting, R. B. Wylie, A. O. Thomas, Dayton Stoner, collaborating. Published by State university of Iowa, Iowa City. Obtainable from the University editor. \$3.

C. E. F.

The recent death of Prof Frank Moore Colby gives a sad emphasis to the fact that his last important work was the supplement to the New International encyclopedia, recently issued. Inasmuch as Prof Colby was editor of the excellent revised edition of this scholarly work issued in the memorable year, 1924, it was to be expected that the supplement issued under his careful editorship would maintain the high standard of the preceding volumes and there is no room for disappointment in that expectation.

The task of preparing a satisfactory supplement to so extended a work as the New International encyclopedia would at no time be an easy thing but in view of the maelstrom of disorganization through which the whole world passed in the interim, the task of issuing a fair, unbiased, comprehensive statement of the progress of the affairs of the human race, including the story of the struggles of mankind at war, was one to deter even a brave councillor. But the obstacles in the way of achievement did not discourage the man charged with the gigantic undertaking. The fields to be covered were logically grouped and each was given for careful investigation and scholarly treatment to real experts, with most gratifying results. A glance at the contributors shows men and women eminent in the various lines, more concerned with presenting the facts as found than in developing theories or confirming beliefs.

The matter included is grouped by subject, primary subjects being biography and history, together with industrial, commercial and financial records of the countries of the world as they have been made in the past decade.

The volumes are supplements in name and in fact to the original volumes of the New International encyclopedia but supersede them in those lines of human thought and activity wherein new developments and new records have been made. The supplement belongs in every reference room whether the first set is owned or not. (Dodd, \$18.)

### A Noted Oriental Library

What has been called the world's finest library on the Far East in languages other than Chinese, Japanese and their kindred tongues, is now located in Tokyo. The library was collected by Dr George E. Morrison over a period of many years. In 1917, the collection was bought by Baron Iwasaki, who added 25,000 volumes to the library, endowed it with \$750,000 and presented it to the city of Tokyo.

This famous collection was in great danger at the time of the Boxer uprising and again when a tidal wave swept over the warehouse where the books were stored after their arrival in Tokyo. At the time of the earthquake, the little district in which the library was located escaped the flames which destroyed nearly everything else within miles. Immediately following the earthquake, Baron Iwasaki built, on a high hill on the edge of Tokyo, a fireproof and soundless library building, to which the priceless volumes were removed.

The institution is open to students of all kinds and countries and a staff ready to assist in research work on Oriental subjects is provided by the trustees.

The library contains books on Oriental subjects in more than 20 languages, more than 400 dictionaries, some of them in languages strange to all except a few western scholars, rare books dating back several centuries, unique copies and several hundred maps dating from 1565 on-

ward. Marginal notes, scribbled on many of the volumes by authors or previous owners who were eminent in their day, add to the value of the books. There are also in the collection many books of the fifteenth century and others, equally rare, of the sixteenth century.

Dr Morrison's collection was confined entirely to books in the tongues of Europe.

### Publicity

At the meeting of the Small Libraries round-table at the Saratoga Springs meeting of the A. L. A., last June, Nora Crimmins, librarian, Public library, Chattanooga, Tenn., in discussing Publicity, called to mind the first library publicity in the admonition to "Silence" in the free town libraries of the early 1800's, and contrasted the present prominence of the library in letter, screen, newspaper and billboard, in churches and in clubs, with the old attitude, and the modern librarian with her "mouse-like" predecessor. Miss Crimmins argued that the title, "public library," implied ownership by the citizens and marked a right to as much information about the library as shareholders are accorded in their corporate business.

Publicity should begin with a survey of the community and strong collections should be built up in line with its special characteristics. Clubs and other organizations will often help defray the expense of publicity regarding the library's possible aids to their special interests or donate funds for projects appealing especially to their members.

News is something fresh and interesting to the public. Library reports, if dressed up in fine English and enlivened with human interest notes, may become such news. Careful noting of gifts is suggestive to other possible donors, stressing always the "public" idea of the organization. Chattanooga strives to make its publicity qualitative, using only methods of dignity which will enable it to attain the purpose of its mission as a "university for the people."

### Library Schools Drexel Institute

The students of Drexel library school congratulate themselves upon being the only library school which possesses a "district meeting" all its own. By co-operation with the Department of libraries at Harrisburg, the annual meeting of the metropolitan district of Philadelphia is held in the picture gallery of Drexel on the invitation of the library school students. The program is on the problems of the small library. Much time is allowed for discussion and the student has an opportunity of viewing the practical results of library conferences. The program given this year on February 18 was unusually interesting, the morning session being devoted to a discussion of new books, and the afternoon, to collection and arrangement of material on local history.

Edith Patterson, librarian, Free public library, Pottsville, spoke to the class on the problem of a small public library basing her talk on the Wisconsin survey.

Asa Don Dickinson, librarian, University of Pennsylvania, addressed the library school on publishers and publishing. The class also had the pleasure of hearing Dr William E. Lingelbach, professor of Modern European history at the University of Pennsylvania, who gave a lecture in the subject bibliography series, confining his notes to running comments on outstanding historical works from the Renaissance down to the World war and the League of Nations.

Willis T. Spivey, who has charge of Drexel publicity, spoke to the class on the necessity of publicity in library work. Mr Spivey spoke from the view point of the layman and demonstrated to the students the necessity of interesting the average busy man in the work being done by the library.

On March 4, the class had the pleasure of listening in on the presidential inauguration through the wireless demonstration conducted by Drexel engineers.

One of the most delightful lectures of the whole month was that given by Dr John H. Miller, who has the chair of astronomy at Swarthmore college. Dr



Miller's lecture was followed by a moving picture show of the recent eclipse taken by the *Pathe News* under Dr Miller's direction.

ANNE W. HOWLAND  
Director

#### Los Angeles public library

The course in administration promises to be especially interesting this year. It opened with lectures on Certification, by Mrs Brewitt of Long Beach; Staff organization, by Miss Jacobus, of Pomona; Books and the librarian, by Miss Warren, of San Diego; The library and the community, by Miss Carroll, of Oxnard; Publicity, by Miss Drake, of Pasadena, and the State library, by Mr Ferguson. Before Miss Vogel's lectures on County library administration, the class was entertained in three groups by the County library staff, who showed the students the various departments and processes, and refreshed them with tea.

The March week of practice was preceded by a lecture on News writing by Monica Shannon, and followed by the writing and criticism of stories based on the practice experiences. The administration lectures by specialists are supplemented by class discussions based on reading and individual investigation and by dramatic presentation of library and board meetings.

One project in the School library course was planning two lessons for university extension classes for teachers. Each student had a part in the demonstration for the extension classes. Another project was the making of lists of technical books for the boys in the State school at Whittier.

The students who elected the special children's librarians' course were assigned to different branches for supervised practice.

MARION HORTON  
Principal

#### New York public library

John A. Lowe's lectures consisted of a series of talks largely on the legal and financial aspects of library management. Dr Dixon Ryan Fox is conducting his series on the literature of American

history, which includes some reference to the development of American historical writing and a problem in the field covered. Linda Morley is giving a well-arranged and effective presentation of the organization of the special library, the selection, acquisition and arranging of material in the special library, reference and research methods, and the personnel side of the work. Henrietta Bartlett is delivering her usual series on English book building before 1550.

The commencement exercises for 1925 are scheduled for Friday, June 12, the speaker of the occasion being Miss G. M. Walton, head librarian, Michigan State normal college, Ypsilanti. The annual meeting of the Alumni association will be held June 11.

Entrance examinations for the year 1925-26 will take place at New York and elsewhere on Saturday, June 13.

ERNEST J. REECE  
Principal

#### New York state library

The month of March, usually spent by the students in field practice work outside of Albany, was given up very largely to visiting instructors provided by the Alumni association: William F. Yust, Library buildings; Joseph L. Wheeler, Library administration; Martha Wilson, School libraries. Mr Wheeler was the only one of the three visitors to complete his course during the month. In 19 appointments with the senior class, he considered administration from the point of view of public and county libraries. Each lecture was accompanied by required reading, and in addition to several short problems at various points in the course, the students worked in small groups on longer problems involving considerable additional reading, research and correspondence. Some of these assignments were: The factors in the cost of cataloging; Routine and cost of preparing books for the shelves; An index of administrative material in annual reports; A program for developing branch and station service in Albany; Costs and specifications for an Albany book auto; Costs and results of business and technical departments and branches.

The biennial visit to libraries in New York, Philadelphia and Washington will be made, April 20-29.

Two members of the senior class, Elizabeth F. Makin and Leo R. Etzkorn, have been obliged to drop their work temporarily because of illness.

Two of the senior students have recently received appointments to positions beginning at the close of the school year: Kenneth J. Boyer will become librarian, Athenaeum, Westfield, Mass., and Louis T. Ibbotson reference librarian of Duke university, Durham, N. C.

Mrs Edith Buck Metcalf, '18, is temporarily in charge of the Fairground branch of the Public library, Des Moines, Iowa.

EDNA M. SANDERSON  
Vice-director

#### Pratt Institute

The class in book selection that is always the center of interest during the mid-winter term has been at work on a real problem (or project, to use the current term) of great interest—the selection of the first 5000 books for the new Normal School library at Salisbury, Maryland. Each broad subject, as history, biography, travel, etc., is divided into sub-topics, to which a committee of two or three students is assigned, their weekly reports forming the basis for class discussion, the book knowledge and experience of the whole class being brought to bear on the final selection. The work will extend into the third term.

The pleasure of visiting the Morgan library was heightened this year by an unexpected talk from Henrietta C. Bartlett, '01, author of *Mr. William Shakespeare*, Yale University Press, 1922. Miss Bartlett had brought her own class in English literature to the library that morning to see the edition of Shakespeare, and Miss Greene asked her to return in the afternoon and give the same talk to our class. Spread out on tables were the library's collection of the quartos, of the four great folios and of Shakespearean sources and early criticism. The class had just had a lecture on the history of book binding, and in another room were many specimens of beautiful bindings from the earliest Italian to the present day.

The lecturers this past month have been Sarah B. Askew of New Jersey,

Mary E. Hall, the Girls' high school; Lily M. Dodgen, Trenton normal school; Henry B. Van Hoesen, Princeton University library, and Isadore G. Mudge, Columbia university.

The librarian of Louvain university, M. Abbé van Cauwenbergh, visited the school, March 2, and spoke briefly to the students in French, his talk being interpreted by Mlle. de Bondeli of the present class. M. van Cauwenbergh has come over here to investigate university libraries. He showed a very keen interest in the work of the school, examining the schedules and asking many questions about the course.

The Pratt Institute free library is not to close from Lincoln's birthday to Good Friday for the taking of an inventory, as was implied in the school report in the March number of PUBLIC LIBRARIES, but on those two days.

JOSEPHINE ADAMS RATHBONE  
Vice-director

#### St. Louis public library

The A. L. A. board of education for librarianship made a stop in St. Louis, February 23. Adam Strohm, Sarah C. N. Bogle, Harriet Howe, Harrison W. Craver and Elizabeth Smith were the members present. The day's program included attendance at three lectures, an informal meeting with the students and examination of records and reports in the morning. A luncheon was given in honor of the board by the A. L. A. local chapter, at which 75 members of the A. L. A. were present; impromptu talks were given by each member of the board and a general reception followed. The afternoon was spent in visiting the central building and branches and in a general conference with the faculty of the library school. The board left for Texas in the evening.

The class of 1925 reports a 100 per cent membership in the A. L. A.

Beginning with the school year, 1925-26, in general, candidates for admission to the school must have completed at least such work as would be accepted for admission to the sophomore class of an approved college or university. High-

school graduates with sufficient years of library experience or exceptional qualifications may in a few cases be admitted.

A. E. B.

#### Simmons college

Zaidee Brown put the capstone on the course in Library administration with her three lectures, February 24-25. She also spoke on fiction in the Book selection course. Alice I. Hazeltine initiated the group into the pleasures and responsibilities of library work with boys and girls in her address, March 2.

On March 30, we welcomed the return of Elizabeth Knapp, supervisor of library work with children, Detroit public library, to give our course in Library work for children. The time has been extended this year from three to four weeks, during which time this subject holds the center of the stage.

Plans for next year are now well matured, which include two important innovations. After next year, the academic work will occupy the whole of the first three years of the four-year course in the library school, and the fourth year, devoted to library science, will be identical with that given to students coming from other colleges for the one-year program.

The second new feature is the determination to offer a course preparing for bookselling, the details of which are now being worked out. A college degree, or at least three years of academic college credit, will be required for entrance, just as is the case in our present one-year course in librarianship. The program will cover a full year. A large part of the instruction will be identical with that given to the prospective librarians, but there will be strong specialization, especially in the third term, for preparing for bookselling.

The class, 40 in number, spent the fortnight, March 9-March 20, in field work. The school is greatly indebted to the hostess libraries who so generously allowed it to send students to them for this period of observation.

JUNE R. DONNELLY  
Director

#### University of Washington

The University of Washington library school was visited, March 6, by the Board of education for librarianship. After spending the entire day inspecting the school, conferring with the faculty of the school and with President Suzzallo, they continued their tour of inspection.

The board came to us in the finest possible spirit, exhibiting interest and sympathetic understanding. They came to see and know and not to criticize. They assumed the scientific attitude that we want to know how to build the best possible library school and to that end we want to study all "living examples" as a guide.

In addition to the pleasure of meeting old friends, we were pleased to meet the board officially in the fine attitude in which they came.

Mary Elizabeth Jones, '23, is on leave of absence from her position as assistant, Washington State normal school, Ellensburg, and is attending the library school of the New York public library.

Corinne Ruttle Tracy, '17, is assistant in the reference department, California state library, Sacramento.

Elma Hawkins, '20, is temporarily connected with the Tacoma public library, as assistant in circulation.

Carolyn Fiske Kapak, '14, is now assistant in the Spokane public library.

Helen Lloyd, '24, was married, November 7, 1924, to E. W. Lindroth. \* Mr and Mrs Lindroth are making their home in Seattle.

W. E. HENRY  
Director

#### Western Reserve university

The second semester of the school was started by the course in the Printed book and great European libraries by Prof A. S. Root, librarian, Oberlin college. In addition to the regular subjects, other new courses are Practical psychology, under Prof Grace Preyer Rush of the College for women, and Book-binding and repair, by Gertrude Stiles.

In the midst of the many and important details of the completion of the new Cleveland library building, Miss Eastman has found time to lecture to the student on library buildings and equipment. Roena Ingham, librarian, Public library, Lakewood, O., gave a lecture on the selection and care of periodicals.

Other Cleveland lecturers have been Helen Gilchrist, librarian, Brown school, on book reviewing; Anna P. Dingman, Cleveland public library, on adult education; Gertrude Robertson, on books of history.

A welcome visitor during February was Carrie E. Scott, supervisor of children's work, Indianapolis public library, who spoke on Mediocre books for girls and What the Indianapolis library is doing. Miss Scott's lectures were most helpful and stimulating. Julia W. Merrill, head of the Organization department, Ohio state library, spoke on her field work and the opportunities for service in the small public library.

Rose L. Vormelker, '19, is now librarian for the executive department of the White Motor Company, Cleveland.

Gail Stahl, '21, has recently become reference assistant in the Public library, Minneapolis, Minn.

Betty Brown, '24, became assistant cataloger in the New York public library in January.

ALICE S. TYLER  
Director

#### Paris library school

Mlle. Rachel Sedeyn, librarian of the University of Brussels, will teach cataloging, classification and other technical subjects in the summer school to be held at the Paris library school. Mlle. Sedeyn is a graduate of Pratt Institute library school, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Margaret Mann, chief instructor in the Paris library school, will probably travel during the summer but will return in the fall as chief instructor.

In March, Dr E. C. Richardson talked to the students on university library administration.

#### Summer schools

A library summer school will be held at the Colorado State agricultural college, Fort Collins, June 8-July 24. In addition to Charlotte A. Baker, librarian of the college, there will be eight other instructors, experts in their particular lines. The first week will be devoted to bookbinding and repair, in charge of Louis Williams, Denver evening vocational high school.

The University of Illinois library school will hold its usual summer session, offering two distinct groups of library

courses. One group, June 22-August 15, is open to college graduates and will include practically all work given in the first semester of the regular library school. The other group, June 22-August 1, is open to high-school graduates who are employed in libraries or have definite appointment to library positions. Its courses are planned to meet the needs of librarians in small libraries, assistants and teacher-librarians. Credit received is a statement of grades from the University registrar.

As the number of students accepted is limited, preference will be given to Illinois applicants until June 1.

A summer school devoted entirely for six weeks to a course in school library work will be held at the New York State library school, July 6-August 15. It is proposed in this course to meet the requirements for the one-year school librarians' certificate in New York state.

Simmons College library school will hold a summer course, July 6-August 14, on school libraries, open to teachers, school librarians and library school graduates.

A second course, July 6-24, will deal with children's literature, reference work and small library organization. Instructors, June R. Donnelly, Helen Burgess and Florence Blunt.

The first summer session of the library school, University of Texas, will be held, June 8-July 20. Full university credit for all courses, a third credit for one, will be given to students having junior standing, but no credit will be given in the Department of library science. The instructors will be Elva L. Bascom, chairman of the department, and Alice Harrison, librarian, Austin Senior high school.

The School of library science, Western Reserve university, Cleveland, O., will give a summer course, June 22-July 31. A special three weeks' course in library work with children will be offered, July 13-31.

For further information, address Director, School of Library Science, W. R. U., 2100 Adelbert Road, Cleveland.

**Department of School Libraries**

**The High-School Library in Relation to Adult Education**

**Harriet A. Wood**, supervisor, school libraries, State department of education, St. Paul, Minn.

"The American Library Association believes that every student from the elementary school through the university should learn to use and appreciate books and libraries not only that he may study to advantage in school but also that he may continue through adult life to benefit from the resources of libraries."

"It ought to be obvious," states H. H. B. Meyer, president of the A. L. A., in a recent address, "that the first step in adult education is a knowledge of how to use the library. Every one is undergoing some form of adult education. The library is beginning to be recognized as perhaps the most flexible and adaptable instrument for this. There is no single bit of knowledge that the pupil can carry away with him from the school that will be so useful to him in his subsequent development as a knowledge of how to use a library, what are the peculiarities of a card catalog, what is the significance of a bibliography, what are the most useful reference books and where can he secure the best information concerning the new books that are published."

The library philosophy was aptly formulated by a pioneer teacher in the first library school, Salome Cutler Fairchild, in a single sentence.

*The function of the library as an institution of society is the development and enrichment of human life in the entire community by bringing to all the people the books that belong to them.*

It is logical, therefore, that the Carnegie Corporation, established "to promote the advancement and diffusion of knowledge and understanding among the people of the United States," should decide that the tax-supported public library is the ideal institution through which knowledge may be disseminated. Thus, the public library is to become the People's university in fact as well as in

name. "All that you need to be concerned with," writes J. H. Sears, former president of the Appleton Company to the director of the Adult Education commission, "is *teaching reading habits*, for once a reading habit is fixed, it is never broken. I have seen drunkards reformed and Christians made of thieves, but I have never seen the reader changed." Mr Sears took the trouble to make a study of the present reading habits of his boyhood and college friends. "Those boys who read in the old Cape Cod days are reading still. Men who read in the college days at Yale are reading still."

Someone has said, "At twenty-one a man is not educated, however intelligently he has been brought up. At best, he is only educated up to twenty-one."

J. N. Larned, the well-known historian and librarian, stresses the importance of the reading habit in the following statement:

"It is better and more necessary for the majority of people that they should be readers of books in a general way rather than students and specialists of learning; it is better still that the reading of each one should range with wide freedom round some centre of school study, some chapter of history, some question, some language, some work or some personality in literature—it scarcely matters what, so long as a little definite province of knowledge is really occupied and possessed."

The relation of the school library to adult education is clearly indicated in the following extracts from a valuable study entitled *The American public library and the diffusion of knowledge*, made by W. S. Learned of the Carnegie Foundation. "As a few cities have discovered, the rational relation between schools and library is one of complete interdependence and coöperation. Fairly considered, the library and its organization represent the community educational establishment in all of its branches; the elementary and secondary schools are its apprentice shops, and the youth who passes from



school without acquiring the skill and habit of using his library for both pleasure and knowledge has been woefully mistaught.

This fact made such an appeal to the Omaha Technical high school that (with the advice and assistance of the Omaha public library) it has completely revised the customary high-school organization to remedy the situation. Of its 3000 or more pupils, 85 per cent go directly into industrial life. Its new arrangement is intended to guarantee that its graduates shall first of all *know how to use books*. The essential innovation is the provision and equipment in a new building of spacious reading and study rooms served by an open-shelf library of 12,000 volumes with five trained librarians and ample student assistants on call daily, including Saturday. Class work is organized with the library as a nucleus and pupils are not only fully instructed in its use but also given a regular and frequent period for browsing or for supplementary reading.

An example of good school library organization on a small scale is Pine Island, Minn., a village of less than 1000 inhabitants. Here the public library and the school library have combined, sharing the cost of administration and new acquisitions and making it possible to use the joint institution as a school library throughout. With 3500 volumes, the total circulation has been 17,600 or five withdrawals per volume per year—a turnover that is exceptional.

At Cleveland, the school and the library labor hand in hand for the pupil. Indeed, the library is in a sense the modeling board on which the teacher's work is performed. It is the conscious aim of the system that no child shall lack convenient access to a branch library in, or adjacent to, the school, or else to a classroom library, and both types of service are organized and managed by the main library personnel directly for his benefit. An especially trained and expert librarian selected and in part paid by the library, looks after him, gives him *regular instruction in the care and use of books*, and sees to it that his experience

is happy. Reference of pupils to the library on the part of teachers is incessant; both teachers and pupils consult with the librarians as to book selection, and use the collection as an integral and indispensable part of the school equipment, which it actually is. What this habitual familiarity with the library means after a student has graduated may easily be imagined; he has been bred to it and by it, and the institution remains an intimately serviceable factor in his life after he leaves school."

Whatever the need, entertainment, inspiration, practical information or the sheer joy of study, it is evident that everyone should be equipped upon leaving school to find his way among books. This instruction, to be most effective, should begin in the first grade and continue through high school and college. But the high school is the last opportunity before adult life for reaching the majority and should offer a well organized course. A library in the high school is the laboratory where book science so vital both to the present and future needs of all students may be taught.

The initial step in this library instructional program is the employment of a librarian who has at least the minimum amount of library training, a summer course. This librarian must, in addition to the necessary educational background, really care for young people and their interests.

A librarian's first duty is to assist with the school library plans and equipment if a new building is contemplated. The room itself may be of great influence if it is attractive and properly furnished. The students will take pride in it and in later years the library in many a home will reflect its quiet charm.

The librarian's next duty is the selection of books, which is a pleasant but arduous task calling for very careful weighing of book values. Every unnecessary copy, every unsuitable volume, will hinder the efficiency of the library workshop. The responsibility for a well-rounded collection should rest primarily upon the school librarian although every teacher in the school should have a part

in recommending the books in this subject. All subjects represented in the curriculum and all literature on the home reading list, the fiction as well as the non-fiction, should be found on the school library shelves. The best magazines and pictures, together with the invaluable pamphlet material, are indispensable. Some librarians also care for maps, music, victrola records and slides. But it is not desirable to store supplementary sets and textbooks in a real school library.

With the physical features cared for and the books all mobilized on the shelves, the book laboratory is ready for library classes. The use of a library to assist the pupil in preparing his daily lessons is of less importance than the skill which he acquires in using the library tools and catalogs, the magazines and reference books, and in the proper preparation of bibliographies. For this reason, so far as possible, a pupil should be expected to discover his own material in its regular place on the shelves after being instructed in the right methods of procedure.

A familiarity with a well organized library gained in high school will be of service throughout life. But the knowledge of the library tools, though valuable, is not sufficient. Wide reading is necessary to establish right attitudes and to develop socially-minded rather than self-centered individuals who will help to break down race prejudice, religious bigotry, superstition, political and economic enmity and international distrust. The book lover and the student are to be encouraged by the intimate personal daily coöperation of the librarian with the English teacher, the history teacher, the science teacher. The pupil, the teacher and the librarian form a magic ring, and the exchange of book enthusiasms within this circle works wonders. The reading habits of many young people have been stabilized and deepened through the high-school library. Public and college librarians bear evidence to their self helpfulness and widening book interests. An infinite amount of time and wasted effort are saved by the college student who has learned library ways in the preparatory

school, and the young man or woman who does not enter college is far more likely to graduate into the public library and to continue his mental and spiritual growth as a student under the guidance of the less formal and easily accessible continuation school.

When this kind of instruction becomes more general the possibility of the diffusion of knowledge will be greatly facilitated and our national ideal of universal education will be more nearly approximated. "Those who enroll themselves as students," said Dean Thompson of Vassar in a talk to college freshmen, "have accepted the life of the worker, for study is in itself a business and an occupation as genuine as any of those enumerated in the census. It is not a gainful occupation but that does not mean that it brings no rewards. It is simply that its rewards are not of the tangible and measureable sort and its gains may not be immediate in time. While study is not everything it is the most important business in being a student and many will find that it is the kind of work which, when once begun, can never be left behind for it becomes not merely a labor but a habit of mind."

### A Letter to Students

Massachusetts department of education  
Division of University extension

A month or two ago, I had occasion to visit the home of a very successful man, who proved to be very friendly. He took me about the house, showing me the various rooms. We paused at the threshold of one, and my host, arching his chest and extending his hand, said proudly, "My library." This man was the possessor of a wonderful collection of books—but consider—you, too, have the privilege of walking down the street and pausing before a fine building, perhaps as imposing as any in town, and declaring just as proudly and truthfully, "My library."

Now make it really your library. A few minutes' conversation will convince you that the librarian is not a man of mystery, but a courteous person who is most willing to help you. Your taxes

help to pay for the books. The assistants are there to provide for your wants.

Do you remember, how as a youngster, you romped into the children's room in the library to bury your nose in the delightful Illustrated adventures of the Brownies? What a thrill when you first ventured into the main room for "grown-ups," with a secret fear in your heart that your entrance would be discovered, and you would be "shoved" back to the small chairs! Then library pleasures passed as you added years. The something-to-do-in-the-evening made the library only a place for borrowing an occasional book of light fiction. Never a thought of the opportunities concealed in the pages lying idle on the shelves.

Wake up! Your library is a veritable Klondike. Idle books are like idle dollars which collect no interest. You will not find there the get-wise-quick, learn-over-night volumes. Librarians conscientiously try to secure only substantial, dependable works for their shelves.

And the modern library is more than a place of books. It shelters the fine arts; many have museums which display relics of history and exhibits of industry and the processes of manufacture. You men and women of Massachusetts have tremendous advantages. Not only is your state the best equipped in the matter of libraries, but you have the division of university extension to help you also.

What is self-gained is best-gained. University extension courses are not obligatory. YOU make the decision. YOU reap the profit. The study of an extension course with the aid of reference books, obtainable at the public library, is a most fruitful method of education. If you don't find the book you need, go to the librarian. He can secure it for you from some other library for a limited time, in case his own cannot furnish it for you.

It makes no difference who you are, what training you have had, or what your age may be, there is something ahead for you if you have the ambition to attain it.

JAMES A. MOYER  
Director

### Range School Librarians Meet

The first meeting for 1925 of the Range School Librarians' club was held in Buhl, Minn., January 17.

An interesting number on the program was a letter from Harriet A. Wood, state supervisor of school libraries for Minnesota, urging the club to concentrate on the outline for teaching the use of books and libraries in the schools.

The annual dues of the club were placed at two dollars.

Discussion of reference books showed need for more careful selection from those offered on the market.

The meeting closed with readings from Hatcher Hughes' play, *Hell bent fer heaven*.

"List of books for high-school libraries," including "Handbook of school library practice," has been prepared by the Ohio state library and issued by the Ohio department of education. The books are grouped alphabetically by author under subjects, with short but clear annotations. An alphabetical author, title and subject index adds greatly to the value of the list. Class numbers are given both in the lists and in the index.

The foreword states that the list was prepared to meet varying conditions but is in response to a demand for an approved up-to-date list of books to serve as an official guide in buying. It is intended primarily for the use of four-year high schools in purchasing books for the school library but may be used by junior high schools to supplement *List of books for elementary school libraries*.

The technical instructions in cataloging, charging systems, etc., together with discussions of quarters, equipment, material, etc., are decidedly helpful.

### Who Is Educated?

The educated man is a man with certain subtle spiritual qualities which make him calm in adversity, happy when alone, just in his dealings, rational and sane in the fullest meaning of the word in all the affairs of his life.—*Ramsay McDonald, in Scribner's Magazine.*

### News from the Field East

Helen Sperry, for many years librarian, Silas Bronson library, Waterbury, Conn., will retire, May 1.

Mrs Helen Clarke Mathews, Pratt '03, has gone to the Public library, Greenwich, Conn., for six months to help with the cataloging.

Eleanor Roper (Ar. '97), formerly librarian at Jamaica, N. Y., is now in the Forbes library, Northampton, Mass., as reference librarian and head of circulation.

Mary R. Lucas will succeed Alice I. Hazeltine as supervisor of young people's reading in the Public library, Providence, R. I., May 25. Miss Lucas took the course at Carnegie library school, Pittsburgh. She has served in the public libraries of New York City and in Duluth and St. Paul, Minn. She is at present head of young people's work in Carnegie library, Atlanta, Ga.

The *Boston Evening Transcript*, February 27, announces with just elation the selection of the director of the famous Boston public library as president of the A. L. A. in its semi-centennial year, 1926. The announcement gives occasion for a very complimentary sketch of the director, Charles F. D. Belden, and his work. The announcement itself carries an expression of approval by the Board of trustees, followed by a three-column article concerning Mr Belden and his work. The editorial anent the American public library movement is most laudatory in its judgment of American public libraries, and it is not without considerable pride that the *Transcript* calls attention to the leading place in the development of American library service and the American Library Association which has always been taken by the Boston public library.

### Central Atlantic

The Public library, Newark, N. J., had a display during February, showing the evolution of the book.

E. Ruth Geiser, Drexel '24, is doing some special work at the Curtis Institute of music, arranging and cataloging the library.

Anne E. Harwood, Simmons '13, for several years in the Public library, Cleveland, O., will join the staff of the H. W. Wilson Company, April 1.

Helen Aquires, Drexel '23, has resigned her position in the Osterhout free library, at Wilkes-Barre, to become assistant librarian of Girard College library.

N. Louise Ruckteshler, for a number of years librarian of the Guernsey memorial library, Norwich, N. Y., has resigned to join the staff of the New Jersey library commission, taking up her new work the first of May.

Marguerite H. Connolly, Drexel '11, has resigned her position as head of the reference department, Free library of Philadelphia, and is now librarian of the Germantown high school for boys.

Dr Ernest Cushing Richardson, honorary director of Princeton University library and chairman of the A. L. A. committee on bibliography, has been elected a corresponding member of the Prussian Academy of sciences in its Philosophic-historical section.

The annual report of the Public library, New Brunswick, N. J., records: Number of volumes on the shelves exclusive of documents and foreign books, 30,012; total circulation, 131,090; active borrowers, 8403; mounted pictures, 5204; number of pictures circulated, 4928. These pictures have been used as a basis for a course in art appreciation in the public schools.

The annual report of the Public library, Syracuse, N. Y., given in the year book just issued, shows the following: Circulation, 887,936v. in a population of 171,717 through 61 agencies; staff members, 34; number of books on the shelves, 173,543; registered borrowers, 41,684; number of persons using the library for reading and study, 149,678. Receipts, \$97,521; expenditures, \$97,327—salaries, library service, \$52,422; books, \$15,610; periodicals, \$2138.

An unusual number of valuable gifts were received during the year. In the main library, 11 exhibits were shown.

The cost to the people of the city for maintaining the library for the year was 48 cents per capita.

#### Central

Emma Felsenthal, Ph. B., B. L. S., Ill. '12, has been appointed medical librarian, University of Iowa library, from March to June, 1925.

The forty-seventh annual report of the Public library, Cairo, Ill., records a circulation of 103,289v., a gain of 7573; books on the shelves, 27,279; borrowers' cards in force, 5760; population, 16,000. Income \$13,152; expenditures, \$12,553.

Charlotte Noyes, Simmons '11, for some time librarian of the Jackson laboratory, E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Company, Wilmington, Delaware, has just resigned her position to become librarian of the W. A. Gilchrist Company, 122 South Michigan avenue, Chicago.

The annual report of the Public library, Cedar Rapids, Ia., records a circulation of 314,980v., of which 205,487v. was fiction, in a population of 50,000, through 15 agencies exclusive of schools; number of books on the shelves, 54,692; cardholders, 17,168. Receipts, \$32,503; expenditures, \$29,816. A number of exhibits were held in the library and several clubs and societies used the auditorium regularly.

The new library building for Antioch college, Yellow Springs, O., to replace that burned last year, has been completed recently. The former library building was the old home occupied by Horace Mann, first president of Antioch college. The new building has been erected on the same site, a replica on the outside of the old building but with such changes on the interior as will render it more useful for library purposes.

On February 20, the Hungarian woman's club, Gary, Ind., observed the hundredth anniversary of the birth of Maurice Jokai, the great Hungarian novelist. The celebration was held in the Bailey branch of the Public library, under the direction of Mrs Charlotte Miko, a library assistant, and president of the club. About 100 persons heard the program, which consisted of papers discuss-

ing Jokai and his work, partly in English and partly in Hungarian, accompanied by musical selections.

The University of Minnesota library has opened up a special reading room in honor of Arthur Upson, a former member of the English department of the university. Nearly 3000 carefully selected books, special furniture and fittings, were given by the donor, who prefers to remain anonymous. The room, which is to be used for personal reading only, is patterned after the browsing rooms of several other libraries but is probably larger and more elaborate than any of them and has certain distinct features of its own. A fund to provide for additional books has also been established by the donor.

The biennial report (1922-24) of the Iowa library commission, Des Moines, is true to its name in so far as it relates to Iowa libraries but throughout there are discussions of library matters, efficiency, income, buildings, etc., that give a reference value to the report beyond the expectations which such a title raises.

The traveling library has 61,000v., of which about 15,000 are in fixed groups of 50 books each. On 13,767 requests, 127,793v. were lent. The reference work has grown so heavy that an assistant is necessary. The annual appropriation for the commission is \$12,000.

The Public library, Indianapolis, Ind., has inaugurated a series of Thursday night book talks which are held in the auditorium of the main library. The announcement of the series states that no attempt will be made toward lectures or addresses, merely a free discussion about books, "books of people, books of poems, books of plays, books of pilgrims, books of peregrinations—almost everything."

The first book talk, held on the evening of February 19, was a decided success. The librarian reports that the library used very little publicity in introducing these talks, "in fact, we tried very hard not to use very much, desiring an interesting group anxious to talk about books rather than a large crowd curious to hear some one person talk." The library hopes to



work up from the smaller group to the full-size crowd and still maintain the discussion idea.

More than 75 persons attended the first book talk, among them several who were doing reading course work. Others in attendance were bookish sort of persons with a few members of the library staff.

The second book talk, *The play's the thing*, was equally delightful and well attended.

#### South

Frances Kelly, Pratt '24, who returned to the staff of the Kansas City public library, has just been made librarian of the new Washington branch.

Florence Helm has been elected librarian of the Public library, Webb City, Mo., to succeed Mary Mitchell, who resigned to become city librarian at Columbia, Mo.

Anna May, Pratt '11, army librarian, with headquarters at Atlanta, Ga., since 1921, has been appointed librarian of the Panama Canal department and will sail on the transport *St. Mihiel*, leaving New York, April 9.

The smallest library in Alabama is at Point Clear in Baldwin county and is housed in a little building, eight by fifteen feet. The library is well organized and has a board of trustees and a regular librarian. The library contains more than 600 books and pamphlets. Mrs. O. E. Zundells is the librarian.

Jesse Cunningham assumed librarianship of Cossitt library, Memphis, Tenn., March 1. A most glowing tribute to Mr. Cunningham's efficiency and favorable service as librarian of the Public library, St. Joseph, Mo., was adopted by the Board of trustees. After recounting the various points of excellence and accomplishment, the resolution states:

The St. Joseph library has made constant progress under his administration. Throughout the period of his service here, our relations with him have been those of increasing confidence and personal regard. We sincerely regret that the call to what he considers to be a larger field has made it seem advisable for him to resign his position of great and growing usefulness in St. Joseph.

A gift of \$10,000 has been made to the Harris County public library, Houston, Tex., by R. S. Sterling, who will furnish Goose Creek with a library building costing \$10,000, moved thereto by a statement of conditions under which the small libraries in the rural districts of Texas are maintained. Lucy T. Fuller, county librarian, has been much interested in this particular locality which has been firm in its determination to have a library but which up until now has been unable to maintain a permanent home although it has continued its work, moving from pillar to post many times.

Alfred C. Finn, Houston architect, is drawing plans for the new building.

Alice I. Hazeltine, so long favorably known as head of the children's department of the Public library, St. Louis, Mo., but who has been connected with the Public library, Providence, R. I., for the past two years, returned to the St. Louis public library, March 15. Miss Hazeltine will be concerned for some time in developing a special training class for children's librarians in the Middle West, this in connection with the training school in the St. Louis public library. Miss Hazeltine gives up her work in Providence with considerable reluctance but the need of the new work and the prospect for carrying it out are most attractive to her. She certainly will receive a hearty welcome home from her friends in the Middle West.

The Oklahoma library commission has bought 2000 books for use in reading courses outlined by the Department of education, Washington, D. C. These cover 33 courses along various lines. Books most in demand concern agriculture. The next greatest demand comes from club women interested in the reading courses and in books on travel, music, drama and child welfare. The largest number of books is for boys and girls, particularly those with a liking for mechanics, science, architecture, geology, literature or the fine arts.

The commission has 30,000v. for traveling libraries, which are in constant use. Of the 77 counties in the state, 47 are

without public libraries and the commission has had piled up at one time requests for 3000 more books than it could supply.

A sample of the good will which prevails toward the state of Florida by those who are able to enjoy its climate and the respite it offers from business cares and responsibilities is illustrated in many ways. Library circles will be interested in a plan which has sprung up between Edward F. Albee, the power behind Keith vaudeville, and Joe L. Earman, retired editor of the *Palm Beach Post*, to provide more libraries for the state of Florida, especially for children. The final agreement was to put in libraries of 200 books for children all over the state, Mr Albee donating \$2000 for every \$500 Mr Earman contributed. It was agreed that Mr Earman should find the locations and Mr Albee would have his check ready as rapidly as they were found. Already some 30 libraries have been installed and the movement is on in real earnest.

The annual report of the Public library, Norfolk, Va., records increasing interest and effective development. Number of books on the shelves, 47,227, and several thousand unaccessioned pamphlets; total registration, 42,000; circulation, 226,771v., an increase of 21,384; nearly 75 per cent of circulation was fiction. The reading rooms were used by 74,558 persons doing actual reading. The library received a number of valuable gifts during the year. It was found recently that the floors and furniture of the library had been considerably damaged by white ants before discovery was made, and this and other needed repairs encroached considerably on the book fund.

A catalog of government documents was finished during the year. A series of lessons in the use of books and the library was given by the children's librarian in certain public schools. All branch libraries showed marked improvement during the year. The branch for the colored people of the city, which is usually crowded with readers, showed an unsatisfactory issue of books for home reading.

### West

Julius Lucht, librarian of the Public library, Wichita, Kans., for the past several years, has resigned.

The Free library commission, Pierre, S. D., suffered great loss and damage recently from a fire which broke out in the building in which the library is located. Some of the loss is irreparable. The entire files of the Free library commission were saturated with water but a majority of the volumes will be salvaged.

The annual report of the Free public library, Leavenworth, Kan., records a circulation of 108,477v., a per capita circulation of 6; borrowers registered, 5563, 32 per cent of the population; books on the shelves, 31,958; income, \$8697; expenditures, \$8193; books, \$1809; periodicals and binding, \$1103; salaries, \$3760.

The twelfth biennial report of the Nebraska public library commission, while setting out in detail much of its work, gives also a resumé of the duties and possibilities of such an educational institution. The report states that there are at present two specific measures in which the commission may help to make its aim effective—adult education and illiteracy. These two problems are approached through the Nebraska federation of women's clubs and the Nebraska Illiteracy commission.

The work of the commission is organized under three general divisions—field activities, a system of traveling libraries and reference loans, and the building and supervising of libraries in state institutions under the Board of control.

There are now 126 towns in Nebraska containing libraries, with which the commission keeps in close contact. The commission's circulation of books to groups and individuals, judging by requests, shows an increase in the last biennium of 64 per cent; 86,230v. were lent, 62,287v. in traveling library groups and 23,934 to individuals, though of course the total circulation of these books reached a very much larger number. There were 993 traveling libraries lent to 90 counties. Communications received

from all classes of persons show the greatest appreciation of and profits from the service of the commission.

In addition to normal increase in use there was a very large increase in the variety of subject matter called for. Work with institutional libraries has been most satisfactory. The superintendents of the institutions are appreciative and have rendered assistance to the library commission in its work.

The commission's needs are noted as trained people for the work and a larger supply of books. Nearly a million and a quarter of people in Nebraska are without local library facilities, but in face of a 64 per cent increase in demands, the commission is operating on a book fund one-third less than that of the preceding biennium. There are but two towns above a population of 2000 inhabitants which do not have tax supported libraries and 17 towns in the state are receiving \$1 per capita for the support of their libraries. Library institutes have been held throughout the state and technical lectures and exhibits made them most effective.

#### Pacific Coast

Gertrude S. Pyne, for 10 years assistant librarian, Public library, Santa Monica, Cal., died, February 21, after a lingering illness. Miss Pyne was a sister of Frank Pyne, state librarian of Nevada.

Florence M. Freeman, Public library, Long Beach, Cal., has resigned as secretary of the Catalog section of the A. L. A., and is succeeded by Lena V. Brownell. Library Association, Portland, Ore. All communications, dues, etc., should be sent to Miss Brownell.

Mrs Virginia C. Bacon, for a number of years librarian, Humboldt State normal school, Arcata, Cal., has joined the staff of the Library Association, Portland. In addition to reference work, Mrs Bacon is devoting part of her time to the publication of library notes in the local newspapers and to the library book-hour, an informal weekly discussion of books to which the public is invited.

The biennial report of the California state library (1922-24) records the economic measures to which it was forced by the wave of reduction in state ex-

penditures which has swept over the country in the past two years. The library's income was reduced nearly one-third and the staff more than one-half. The frequent turn-over in staff members is noted as a great detriment to the service. The new library building is approaching completion and the librarian emphasizes the fact that the present staff and funds are wholly inadequate for reasonably efficient operation of the new plant. The library's service to the state has been affected by the retrenchment. Home teaching of the blind by the library was discontinued. Stanford university asked the Sutro branch to vacate the premises which the university found necessary for its own use and the Sutro library was placed in the San Francisco public library where it has, rent free, a full floor in the stacks and space in the main reference room. A plan to reduce this collection to the original Sutro books by abandoning efforts to add to it, has been adopted with the idea that the collection will become more important as the book wealth therein is separated from the large mass of material surrounding it.

The number of county libraries remains 42, no new county having been added to the county library system. Steady growth in those already organized is noted.

The report again calls attention to the severe handicap the work of the library is experiencing for lack of room. It has been necessary to abandon much of the work already started and to put part of the collection in storage. The demand for an open shelf reading room for technical books is most insistent and still unmet.

The State library of Oregon suffered with the rest of the state offices from the wave of "economy" of the times. It will be compelled to readjust its work in consequence for the next two years in spite of the constantly growing demands on the library for help by the people distant from book centers.

There are but three out of a total of 198 incorporated cities which have not had service from the State library during the past two years. There are 760

post offices outside Multnomah county and all but 56 of these received State library shipments within the biennial period; 34 incorporated cities have no community library centers and many municipal libraries have no tax support. Some counties have no local free libraries within their borders. Among nine county libraries, there are 53 organized community branches. These public libraries of the state own 635,227v. and lent 3,315,112v., serving a population of 523,-823.

#### Canada

As the Wembley exhibition in London, England, is to be reopened this year, the Public library, Toronto, Ont., has been requested by the Dominion government to make an exhibition of Canadian literature similar to the very successful one of 1924.

The circulation of the Public library, Toronto, Ont., for the past year reached more than 2,000,000v., the use of reference books was more than a quarter of a million, while 600,000v. were used by boys and girls.

Under these circumstances, the chief librarian, Mr George H. Locke, has issued a special emergency report on conditions in the library, making a strong appeal for enlarged quarters for the circulating library known as the College branch, for the John Ross Robinson historical collection and for the various business departments which carry on the work of the library. Mr Locke makes a strong appeal that the city carry out what seems to have been an obligation with regard to the wonderful historical material in the Robinson collection when it was accepted. This collection occupies almost two floors of the library building in which it is housed.

#### Foreign

Cedric Chivers, J. P., mayor of Bath, is the director of *G. K.'s Weekly*, a new periodical launched by G. K. Chesterton.

Jessie M. Carson who has been filling a temporary position on the staff of the New York public library is soon to return to do some special work in the American library in Paris. Her return is eagerly looked forward to by the librarians in the field.

The annual report of the Public library of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia, records a total collection of 368,390v. of which 12,608 were added during the past year. Many valuable manuscripts, portraits, registers, etc., valuable for historical connections, were acquired. During the year, 29,657v. were forwarded by post to 18,534 borrowers in country districts. There was a total of 223,234 visitors at the library.

The 1924 report of the Public library of South Australia, Adelaide, records great increase in the use of the library. Increasing use of the library for research, for business purposes and for reading and study of all kinds is greatly hampered by the need of more financial support. Notwithstanding the fact that 32,000 more persons made use of the library than in the previous year, the past year has seen the smallest number of books purchased for the past 20 years. The library has been depending largely on the income from an endowment for the purchase of books. Lack of space for storage still hampers the work of the library. The activity of the children's library has continued despite lack of needed material. Classes of children from the schools, accompanied by their teachers, visited the library for instruction in the use of books. A monthly story hour was conducted during the year of 212 days on which the children's room was open.

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**Wanted**—Cataloger for the summer; 3500v. Address Mary E. Midwinter, Public library, Arcola, Ill.

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**Wanted**—Copy of *Elementary English Review*, March, 1924. State Teachers' College library, Valley City, N. D.

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**Wanted**—Children's librarian. Address Librarian, Beebe memorial library, Wakefield, Mass.

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**For sale**—Magazines in good condition, as follows: Unbound—*Literary Digest*, 1918-23, inc.; *Harper's Monthly*, 1909-23, inc.; Bound—*Harper's Monthly*, My-D, 1905; My-D, 1906; D 1908-D 1909. Address Grace H. Kline, 109 E. Case St., Negaunee, Mich.